



**Performance and Finance Select
Committee**
29th July 2008

**Report from the Director of Policy
and Regeneration**

For Information

Wards Affected:
ALL

**Report Title: Brent Local Area Agreement Annual Report
2007/08**

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report is an update on the performance during 2007/08 of the stretch targets contained in the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for 2006-2009. The stretch targets are now entering their third and final year, and come the end of the year they will be audited for eligibility of performance reward grant.
- 1.2. This report contains just the stretch targets as they are the only element of the Local Area Agreement negotiated in 2006 which will be continued in the new LAA negotiated in 2008. The new LAA which runs from 2008 to 2011 will contain 22 priorities for improvement based on the new National Indicator Set, the 12 stretch targets (for 2008/09 only), and four local priorities.
- 1.3. This report shows that 11 out of 19 stretch target indicators achieved their targets in 2007/08. Two indicators did not achieve their targets, and six do not have any information to report yet for 2007/08. Of the indicators yet to provide information for 2007/08, four indicators will have information provided after the end of the academic year, one will have information provided when the Sport England interim survey is completed in September 2008. The final figure for the value for money stretch target is expected in July 2008.
- 1.4. The end of this report contains a section on Performance Reward Grant.

2. Recommendations

- Members are asked to note good and poor performance against the stretch targets in 2007/08
- Members are asked to note the final targets against the stretch targets, which must be achieved to obtain performance reward grant
- Members are asked to commit to continue to monitor progress during 2008/09 and to manage performance against any priorities which are underperforming against any targets.

3. Performance against the stretch targets

This section will contain detail about the progress over the last year of the stretch targets.

3.1. *Proportion of streets and open spaces assessed as having unacceptable levels of litter and detritus*- A new waste contract came into effect in 2007/08, and had an impact on levels of street cleanliness in Brent over the course of the year. Street cleanliness is assessed by a survey carried out by ENCAMS three times a year. ENCAMS are an independent body who are commissioned by many councils in London to assess streets for their cleanliness. The scores awarded to Brent improved over the course of the year, and the third survey in January 2008 returned a score of 17%, which was enough to achieve the target for 2007/08, and bodes well for the future. Performance for the whole of 2007/08 was 21.33%, which achieved the annual target of 22%.

3.2. *The number of accidental fires in residential properties*- Brent Fire Brigade are the leading agency for this target, and they run a programme of free home visits and fire safety checks in homes in Brent. The number of accidental fires in Brent homes has fallen in 2007/08, with 215 accidental fires recorded during the year, against a target of 275. Brent has has one of the highest numbers and rates of accidental fires in London, but the improvements in performance are better than Brent was expecting at the time the targets were set. We are confident of achieving the target in the third year of the programme as the first two years have performed better than expected against the targets.

3.3. *Domestic Violence*- There are three indicators under the domestic violence stretch target, which combined form an effective programme to reduce repeat incidents of domestic violence. The three indicators in the LAA relate to arrests at the scene if the suspect is present; to the percentage of incidents which are followed up with some kind of sanction activity; and the percentage of cases which reach court and

are then dropped for any number of reasons. The domestic violence project is delivered by a partnership of agencies in Brent including the Metropolitan Police, the Crown Prosecution Service, the Magistrate's Court, and the project is co-ordinated by the Brent Council Community Safety Team. The joined up approach has resulted in the individual targets being exceeded, and the actual number of domestic violence incidents has fallen. Current performance exceeds the targets for the last year, and we are confident of achieving the targets.

3.4. *Number of visits by children and young people to Brent Council leisure facilities not as a club or school visit-* The schemes implemented by Brent Council Sport Service have been successful, and performance has far exceeded the target over the first two years, and has already achieved the final cumulative target for the three years. The performance over the last two years was 128,424 visits, whilst the cumulative target for the whole three years of the LAA is 111,920 visits.

3.5. *Proportion of adults exercising for 30 minutes, three times a week-* This target is measured by the Active People Survey, a survey of the population carried out by Sport England every three years. The survey takes place over a year, and the first survey which provided the baseline took place between October 2005 and October 2006. Sport England are currently carrying out an Interim Survey between October 2007 and October 2008, and the next complete survey will run on from that between October 2008 and October 2009. The third survey will be the survey against which Brent's performance on the stretch target will be measured. The Interim survey currently being carried out is a smaller survey, but Brent have commissioned another 500m interviews so that the sample size is the same as in the first survey and the results can be compared to show how Brent are progressing against the target. We expect the results by the end of the year. In the meantime, Brent Sports Service have implemented programmes targeted at groups of the community who have lower sports participation rates to encourage more people to exercise. Until the survey has been completed there is no new performance to report.

3.6. *Number of people helped into employment-* There are two parts to this stretch target- the number of people from a BME group helped into employment by the Council's Brent in2 Work service, and the number of people from a disadvantaged group helped into employment. In the original negotiations, it was specified that the disadvantaged group exceeded people from a BME background. Due to Brent's ethnic majority Brent in2 Work were struggling to help enough non-BME

clients. During 2007/08 permission was granted by Government Office to classify clients who felt they had disadvantages greater than their ethnicity under the second heading. Targets for the two indicators were lower for 2007/08 and 2008/09 as at the time of negotiation funding was uncertain for the service. However funding was secured, and performance for both parts of the priority has exceeded the targets for the whole three years. Over the two years of the LAA, Brent in2 Work have helped 1,424 people from BME groups, and 497 people from disadvantaged groups into work. The targets over the three years of the LAA are 968 for people from a BME group, and 633 for people from a disadvantaged group. The target for the BME group has been reached, and we are confident of achieving the target for disadvantaged group clients as well.

3.7. *Processing times for new Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit claims-* A new verification process was implemented in 2006/07 which has continued to work well and reduce processing times. The service, Revenue and Benefits, were able to revise their targets for 2007/08, and they achieved the target with ease. We are confident that the service can achieve the target.

3.8. *The number of people who quit smoking-* There are two elements to this stretch target- the number of people in priority areas (Harlesden, Stonebridge, Wembley, Willesden) who quit smoking for four weeks or more using NHS services; and the number of people across Brent who quit smoking for 13 weeks. Brent PCT are the lead agency for this stretch target. The smoking cessation service, and the schemes that they ran to help people stop smoking were stopped during 2007/08, so there was no performance against the 13 week target, and just 43 people quit smoking for 4 weeks in priority areas. Brent PCT have reinvested heavily in the service, and hope to achieve a revised target that would enable Brent to claim at least a proportion of Performance Reward Grant.

The revised targets for 2008/09 are as follows:

Performance Indicator	Old Target	New Target	Performance to Date	Number of quitters needed in 2008/09
The number of people who quit smoking for 4 weeks in priority areas	1900	1860	647	1213
The number of people who quit smoking for 13 weeks (Brent)	720	684	231	453

3.9. *The number of Healthy Schools*- The aim is to have 53 schools achieving the National Healthy Schools Standard by July 2009. The Healthy Schools programme is a wide ranging partnership of activity in schools and includes standards on nutrition, sports, school travel plans and Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE), to name but a few. There are currently 33 Healthy Schools in Brent, which is on target to date, and another 20 schools are in the process of verification, but they all need to complete the process by July 2009 for Brent to achieve the full target.

3.10. *The number of schools offering extended services*- Information against this target is updated just once a year after the end of the school year (after July), when the schools are audited to monitor their extended provision. In July 2007, the number of extended schools in Brent was 35, which was above the target required. The target for July 2008 is 45 schools to be extended, and in July 2009 the target is 70 schools (100% of Secondary Schools, and 80% of Primary Schools).

3.11. *Educational achievement of Looked After Children*- There are two elements to this stretch target- the proportion of Looked After Children achieving 5 or more GCSEs with A*-G grades, and the proportion of Looked After Children achieving 1 or more GCSEs (including 5 or more) with A*-G grades. The results are available at the end of the summer each year. During the school year the Looked After Children education service run a number of initiatives for help these children with their school work including a very popular homework club once a week, booster sessions around exam times, and interventions with pupils and their schools when they need them. Exam results for Looked After Children were very positive in the exams of summer 2007, and the service are confident that the work they are doing with the children sitting exams in summer 2008 and summer 2009 will enable them to achieve the targets.

3.12. *Volunteering*- There are two elements to this target- the number of people from a socially excluded group volunteering for an average of two hours a week over a year (100 hours), and the number of people from a non-socially excluded group volunteering for an average of two hours a week over a year (100 hours). Brent Volunteer Centre, which is a part of BrAVA are the lead agency for this stretch target. The definition of the “socially excluded” group includes all people from a BME group as well as people with disabilities, who are unemployed, and more. The original stretch target was that we have 400 new non-socially excluded volunteers, and 100 new socially excluded volunteers, but because of the bias in Brent’s population to people from a BME group being considered socially excluded, Brent have considerably more new volunteers in this group, and the Volunteer Centre were struggling to achieve the non-socially excluded stretch target. During 2007 we obtained permission to count all new volunteers in one grouping, and as long as at least 100 of the final figure of volunteers are in the socially excluded group, we will be eligible for the full amount of Performance Reward Grant.

3.13. *Value for money*- This target was tied to the Annual Efficiency Cycle which has ended in March 2008. The final figure for 2007/08 is not yet available but in September 2007 just £300,000 more in savings was needed to achieve the target. We are confident of confirming that Brent have achieved the efficiency target by the end of July 2008.

4. Performance in 2007/08

Performance Indicator	Performance 2006/07	DOT	Performance 2007/08	Target 2007/08	Alert	Target 2008/09
The proportion of streets and open spaces assessed as having unacceptable levels of litter and detritus	32%	✓	21.33%	22%	★	19%
The number of accidental fires in residential properties	236	✓	215	275	★	272
The percentage of domestic violence incidents where the suspect is present and an arrest is made	55.82%	✓	65.34%	41.20%	★	51.20%
Sanctioned detection rate for domestic violence	35.54%	✓	44.50%	40%	★	37.40%

Performance Indicator	Performance 2006/07	DOT	Performance 2007/08	Target 2007/08	Alert	Target 2008/09
The proportion of domestic violence cases that reach court and the case is dropped	28%	✓	25.11%	28.90%	★	26.40%
The number of visits by young people to Council sports facilities not as a club or school visit	49,760	✓	78,664	37,200	★	40,920
The proportion of adults who take part in sport or exercise for 30 minutes on three occasions a week	18%		Awaiting survey results	20%		22%
The number of people from a BME group helped into employment	774	✗	650	237	★	244
The number of people from a disadvantaged group helped into employment	47	✓	450	172	★	180
The average time taken to process new Housing and Council Tax Benefit claims	34.80 days	✓	26 days	30 days	★	24 days
The number of people helped to stop smoking in priority areas for 4 weeks	587	✗	60	635	▲	1213
The number of people helped to stop smoking for 13 weeks	223	✗	3	240	▲	453
The number of Healthy Schools	11	✓	33	32	★	53
The percentage of primary schools offering extended services	35%		New information available after July	50%		80%
The percentage of secondary schools offering extended services	69%		New information available after July	69%		100%
The proportion of 16 year old LAC achieving one or more GCSE A*-G (including 5 or more)	69%		New information available after July	68%		80%

Performance Indicator	Performance 2006/07	DOT	Performance 2007/08	Target 2007/08	Alert	Target 2008/09
The proportion of 16 year old LAC achieving five or more GCSE A*-G	51%		New information available after July	27%		31%
The number of volunteers from non-socially excluded groups volunteering 100 hours a year	46	✔	81	250	▲	400
The number of volunteers from socially excluded groups volunteering 100 hours a year	1	✔	244	70	▲	100
The number of volunteers volunteering 100 hours a year (total)	47	✔	325	320	★	500
Value for money efficiency savings	£19,909,569		Available July 2008	£22,620,000		N/A

Key to symbols in this report:

Direction of Travel (DOT) (compares this year's figure to last year's)	
✔	Performance has improved because the number has gone down (smaller numbers are better performance)
✔	Performance has improved because the number has gone up (bigger numbers are better performance)
✘	Performance has worsened because the number has gone down (bigger numbers are better performance)
Alert (compares performance against the target)	
★	Performance has achieved the target
▲	Performance has failed to achieve the target, and is more than 10% away from achieving the target

5. Performance Reward Grant

5.1 The total performance reward grant available to Brent is £9,380,850. Based on performance during the lifetime of the LAA, we can expect up to £8,615,779, for 12 of the stretch targets excluding the PCT stretch target on smoking cessation.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report; however it should be noted that if performance does not achieve the targets stated then Brent will be unable to claim performance reward grant.

7. Legal Implications

7.1. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

8. Diversity Implications

8.1. There are no diversity implications arising from this report.

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