

OXFORDSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD – 18 NOVEMBER 2009

OXFORDSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT: QUARTER 2

Introduction

This report outlines the performance of Thematic Partnerships in managing the delivery of LAA targets. Where performance against a target has been amber or red for two consecutive quarters, Thematic Partnerships have provided a more detailed account of the action they are taking to address performance.

The report is supported by annex 1, which lists all the LAA 2008-11 targets and shows their performance, baseline, the trend in performance and describes any mitigation plans in place.

Summary of Performance by Partnership

Health and Wellbeing Partnership

Green	2
Amber	1
No Current Information (NCI)	2

The Health and Wellbeing Partnership targets are showing a positive trend overall. Two of the five indicators have not been reported because they are annual/biannual targets, and the other three are all showing a positive trend.

- NI 135 (carers receiving assessments) has been amber for two consecutive quarters, however based on last year's performance profile it is likely that the end of year target will be met.

Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Partnership

Green	1
Amber	1
Red	2
NCI	1

The Spatial planning and infrastructure partnership's housing targets (NI 154 - increase in net number of homes - and NI 155 – number of affordable homes delivered) continue to be affected by the recession. There has been a

considerable reduction in the number of planning applications received; particularly for developments of medium and large scale sites. In addition some major sites, where planning permission is in place, are not being brought forward due to current economic climate. District Councils are now progressing with actions to encourage sites to come forward; whilst this will not enable an increase in housing completions in the current year, the aim is to move forward progress on some of the larger sites. The housing targets are subject to the refresh and an update will be provided to the PSB on the outcome of this negotiation.

NI 175 (access to services by public transport) is now amber, down from green last quarter; but the change in real terms has been relatively small (0.15%) and so it is difficult to assess how significant the change in Red/Amber/Green status actually is. If performance continues to be amber next quarter the partnership will provide an account of what is being done to address the decline in performance on this target.

Oxfordshire Economic Partnership

Red	1
NCI	2

NI 152 (number of working age people on out of work benefits) is red this quarter. The largest increase appears to be for those claiming Incapacity Benefit, whilst the percentage of lone parents on such benefits remains the same at 1.1%. If the global recession continues, then the current target will not be met. A meeting to discuss the refresh of the target is scheduled with GOSE.

Public Service Board

Green	1
NCI	2

The green indicator reported within the PSB remit (NI 179 – cash releasing gains) was well above target and continues to be rated green. This is particularly important as it measures efficiency savings across the county, so in the current financial climate it is an important indicator to have well on target.

The Stronger Communities Partnership

NCI	1
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This Partnership did not report on any indicators this quarter as data on NI6 (Increase participation in local volunteering) is reported annually. However, the performance was green on the last report and detailed action plans are in place to further improve performance. These actions are reviewed each quarter and everything in the action plan is currently ahead of target.

Safer Communities Partnership

Green	4
NCI	1

The Safer Communities targets are all on target this quarter. The only indicator which did not report is reported biannually.

Environment and Waste Partnership

Green	3
Amber	1
NCI	3

Performance continues to be good across the Environment and Waste indicators, with improving performance in 3 targets.

- Of the three indicators which were not reported:
 - NI 195(a) and NI 195(b) (litter and detritus targets) were not reported due to delays in data availability. The partnership is working to address this and is exploring the possibility of monthly reporting. Initial indications are that performance is in line with the 09/10 target.
 - NI 185 (reducing CO2 emissions) is not reported this quarter as there needs to be further work between the partnership and the data generator (the officer in charge of the data) to clarify performance against this target.
- NI 188 (Adapting to Climate Change) is reported as amber for the second quarter. The partnership has reported that they will meet their target to reach level 2 by the end of this year. As this is a processed based indicator it is reasonable to accept this

assessment at this stage, however the partnership liaison officer will work with the thematic partnership to verify this position.

Children's Trust

Green	4
Amber	1
Red	6
NCI	7

There are two main areas of Children's Trust performance which need to be considered in detail this quarter:

1. Educational Attainment

- NI 75: A continuing challenge remains the numbers of children attaining 5 or more GCSEs grades at A*-C including English & maths, although it is worth noting that Ofsted rated this green for 07/08 as we were above the national average. Whilst the trend has been upward year on year (1.9% increase this year) it is still below target and Oxfordshire continues to fall short of its statistical neighbours. Comprehensive action plans are in place and the Children's Trust has provided a list of actions to improve performance, however further scrutiny is required to determine the likely effectiveness of these plans. A detailed update on educational attainment will be provided to the PSB in Q3.

2. NEETS

- NI 117: Sixteen to eighteen olds who are not in education, employment or training are particularly vulnerable in the current economic environment. Performance for this target has suffered over the last 24 months. There are detailed plans in place to mitigate against the effects of the recession and performance is being monitored in monthly reports and contract management meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. The PSB is asked to consider this report and note the actions underway to address areas of poor performance.**

Tracy Luck
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9 November 2009