

# Releasing the strength of our communities

## Local Area Agreement for Northumberland (2008-2011)



Story of place and priority framework,  
March 2008



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## Life in Northumberland

Our landscape is characterised in the main by expansive open stretches of countryside, much of which are breathtaking in landscape quality. Although home to 310,000 people, nobody lives in a settlement with more than 35,000 residents. So, within its boundaries, the effects of urban sprawl and congestion are not as acutely felt as most other parts of the country. Thus, it has recently been identified as the most tranquil county in England. Despite this, our collective impact on the environment (i.e. the natural resources we use to live) is greater than the regional average. People in Northumberland also face a number of socio-economic challenges as well as opportunities.

### The county's population

Northumberland's population is an ageing one. The numbers being born are not keeping pace with the numbers dying and we're generally living longer. In addition, people over 40 years old are more likely to live in Northumberland than elsewhere. This population cohort is steadily growing with the existing residents being supplemented with in-migrants attracted to the county to run a business, bring up a family, or retire. In contrast, our younger people (aged between 20 and 29 years old) are now leaving the county in more significant numbers. A number of inter-related factors account for this trend; including an inability to get on the housing ladder, the search for a better-paid or more secure job, or a desire to go on to further or higher education.

### The county's economy

Northumberland's economy cannot be divorced from that of Tyneside – almost a third (28%) of the county's workforce commute there on a daily basis. Despite this, our overall economic performance is poor with our disposable income levels (i.e. the money we have to put back into the economy) significantly lower than both the regional and national equivalents. Unemployment remains broadly consistent with the national level, but the average wage in Northumberland is significantly lower. This is because many of the available jobs are seasonal, part-time or relatively unskilled. There are also significant concentrations of working age residents who are excluded from work. The fortunes of Northumberland's residents are one of stark contrasts, with parts of the county among the "most deprived" in the country but others among the "most affluent".

### The county's geography

Northumberland is the least populated county in England. Our upland communities nestling within the North Pennines and Cheviot Hills are amongst the most remote places in the country – their quality being reflected in National Park and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty designations. The county is more built up where the land is flatter and within the sphere of influence of Tyneside – essentially along the Tyne Valley and within the former coalfield on the southeastern coastal plain. However, such is the contrasting topography and history of these areas that they are very different in character. Originally built around former coal pits, the southeast corner remains home to the bulk of the county's employment base and has seen, over the last thirty years, steady programmes of suburban housing construction and older area regeneration. Within the Tyne Valley, there is a more rolling landscape and new development has been more restricted. The settlements are therefore smaller and feel as though wider tracts of open countryside surround them.

However, there is no such thing as a typical Northumberland way of life. Rather, there are a number of layers of community that share some common features by virtue of being part of Northumberland but which also portray many distinctive qualities.

## **Our communities of place**

The county consists of three distinct areas that have been shaped by their demographic geographic, cultural, and heritage differences as well as the varying influence of their neighbouring communities (i.e. beyond the county boundary). As a result, their constituent communities share similar socio-economic characteristics that are discrete from each other.

The north of the county represents a wide expanse of hills and moorland bordered by outlying uplands and a low-lying coastline broken in places by rocky headlands. It is distinctly open and sparse. Rich archaeological features reflect its troubled borderland past. The principal towns of Alnwick, Berwick and Morpeth serve large catchments that are also partially influenced by both Edinburgh to the north and Tyneside to the south. Many of the communities living in this area are characterised by physical remoteness and rural disadvantage

The west of the county represents agricultural lowlands interspersed with unenclosed areas and wooded river valleys. It is distinctly rural, albeit split by major road and rail transport corridors running into Newcastle and Gateshead. The towns of Ponteland and Hexham are desirable places to live and visit, placing considerable demands on their services and infrastructure. Many of the communities living in this area are characterised by an economic and cultural interdependence with the Tyneside conurbation.

The southeast corner of the county represents a compact coastal lowland intersected by several river estuaries; but its natural landscape has been substantially changed by extensive mining activity to exploit its rich coal reserves. It is distinctly built up with the county's largest settlements (Ashington, Blyth and Cramlington) sited in protected corridors of open land on the northern fringe of Tyneside. Many of the communities living in this area are characterised by high levels of multiple deprivation following the decline of coal mining industries

## **Our target communities of identity**

Even within our communities of place there is neither complete uniformity nor homogeneity. Each is composed of individuals from all sorts of backgrounds, circumstances and perspectives. Some are more vulnerable than others and consist of people going through stages in their lives where they need greater levels of care and support. Others are acutely aware of an inequality or difference that distinguishes them from the greater majority, and, in some cases, may feel that this expressly excludes them from parts of "normal" community life.

Our children and young people matter most in terms of our future – their start in life is crucial to the quality of their adult lives and to the future of our communities. Throughout growing up, they all need support and guidance to flourish and realise their potential. They want to be at the heart of everything we do and feel they have a vital part in positively shaping our communities. As we go through life our needs change.

Older people want to be valued within their community, to be treated with dignity and respect, and to lead meaningful, independent lives. They want to feel they have choices and control over how they live their lives and they want to be able to pass their experience and knowledge onto their family and communities.

People on no or low incomes want to have the same life chances and access to services as everyone else. A major challenge for this strategy is to reduce the inequalities the economic circumstances of these individuals bring to their quality of life.

Our sense of belonging” can also be affected if we feel our particular characteristics (relating to our gender, ethnicity or disability) or beliefs (relating to our faith or values) are not respected within our wider community. People who are discriminated against want their diversity to be accepted and cherished – they want to feel they are included and have an equal voice. The challenge for these individuals is to have their minority needs understood, valued and properly recognised in community life.

Our LAA aims to make sure that the needs of all our communities are adequately met.

## Our Vision and Collective Challenge

Our vision is that we work together to release the strength of all our communities so that everyone in Northumberland has the same life opportunities, is broadly satisfied with the quality of their lives and is able to influence decisions that affect them.

By 2021, all Northumberland residents will feel that they are better able to:

- a) Enjoy a good standard of living
- b) Live safely and in comfort
- c) Lead healthier lifestyles
- d) Readily access the things they need
- e) Take part in cultural activity
- f) Care about our environment
- g) Get involved and bring about change

However, if we are to make our vision a reality, we need to better join up and tailor any intended actions to meet the different needs of communities living in distinctive parts of the county. We also need to work harder and provide differential support to meet the particular needs of our more vulnerable or disadvantaged communities.

Within this, our fundamental policy is to narrow the gap between the “haves” and “have nots”. Any form of disadvantage represents the single biggest determinant in eroding our quality of life.

This means our collective challenge is twofold; first we need to be clear about what we intend doing to reach each of our visioning aims. Our Sustainable Community Strategy provides an over-arching policy framework by defining the long-term objectives for the county (summarised below).

## Our 28 long-term objectives

### **A We enjoy a good standard of living**

- 1 Being competitive
- 2 Unlocking our passion for learning and achieving
- 3 Fostering an enterprise culture
- 4 Opening up the opportunity to work

### **B We live safely and in comfort**

- 5 Maintaining homes to a decent standard
- 6 Providing affordable housing choice
- 7 Reducing crime and fear of crime
- 8 Creating, welcoming, safe and attractive places

### **C We lead healthier lifestyles**

- 9 Promoting healthy eating and keeping fit
- 10 Treating our bodies with respect
- 11 Safeguarding our emotional well being
- 12 Supporting independent living

### **D We can readily access the things we need**

- 13 Sustaining and marketing local services and facilities
- 14 Integrating our transport networks
- 15 Communicating digitally
- 16 Providing seamless pathways to services

### **E We take part in cultural activity**

- 17 Celebrating our distinctiveness
- 18 Providing inspiration
- 19 Making the most of our creativity
- 20 Welcoming visitors

### **F We care about our environment**

- 21 Valuing our countryside and coastline
- 22 Appreciating nature
- 23 Using our energy wisely
- 24 Managing our waste

### **G We get involved and bring about change**

- 25 Having decent places to meet and gather
- 26 Encouraging volunteering
- 27 Nurturing businesses that trade with a social purpose
- 28 Embracing community participation

And secondly, we need to agree how we intend to better tailor and work harder in delivering these objectives. Our LAA provides the platform for meeting this element of our collective challenge over the next three years.

## Our Strategic Priorities

The partnership adopted the following criteria for defining the priorities for Northumberland for the next three years:

- have a cross-cutting impact upon the 28 objectives of the SCS;
- require joined-up, effective partnership intervention to address them;
- matter to local people;
- represent areas of current poor performance;
- reduce inequality or deprivation – particularly in improving the lives of our most vulnerable communities (children and young people; older people; people on no or low incomes; and people who are discriminated against); and
- enhance the sense and quality of place, recognising that it differs across the county.

The intelligence to effectively apply these criteria was built and collated through two inter-related strands of work as outlined below.

### Profiling current needs and assessing past performance

The fundamental evidence base underpinning the identification of Northumberland's priorities has been generated through a suite of data profiles collated and managed by the sub-region's observatory, Northumberland Information Network (InfoNet). These data profiles currently operate on three levels, as follows:

- State of Northumberland – a compendium of high-level indicators that paints a “snapshot” as to the quality of life within the county and constituent districts as compared to the national and regional average
- Belonging Community Area Profiles – a web-based and interactive suite of 50 key indicators that provide a comprehensive and regularly updated “barometer” as to the prevailing state of life within each of our 27 Belonging Communities.
- Supplementary Thematic Profiles – a repository of available statistics for each of the SCS themes which facilitates further in-depth analysis of the prevailing challenges and opportunities within and across the county

These profiles are populated from a considerable number of sources that include:

- ONS Neighbourhood Statistics
- Indices of Deprivation
- Community Health Profiles (North East Public Health Observatory)
- Active People Survey (Sport England)

- Northumberland's Citizenship Survey
- Northumberland's Children and Young People's "Having a Life" Survey
- Northumberland Community Safety Strategic Assessment
- Northumberland's Economic Assessment (in future)
- Northumberland Strategic Health Needs Assessment (in future)

The profiles can be accessed at: [www.northumberlandinfonet.org.uk](http://www.northumberlandinfonet.org.uk)

The priority issues arising from this area profiling work was then supplemented with an assessment of Northumberland's performance, relative to other areas, in relation to the quality of life and services within the county.

This involved defining areas of comparative poor performance from the following key sources:

- the Best Value Performance Indicators (incorporating the outcomes of the User Satisfaction Surveys) of the seven constituent local authorities (accessed at: [www.bvpi.gov.uk](http://www.bvpi.gov.uk))
- the Audit Commission Performance Area Profiles (accessed at: [www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk](http://www.areaprofiles.audit-commission.gov.uk))
- the recent Comprehensive Performance assessment of Northumberland County Council undertaken by the Audit Commission
- the recent Joint Area Review of Children's Services in Northumberland undertaken by Ofsted

## **Evidencing the policy framework**

The SCS and initial LAA were built from this evidence base. These strategic partnership processes have subsequently informed the preparation of a comprehensive suite of strategies and plans tailored to delivering particular thematic activity and/or to address the particular needs of the county's most vulnerable communities. These include:

- the emerging Strategic Framework for Climate Change Planning
- Sector Action Plans relating to Business, Enterprise & Skills; Culture & Tourism; Environment & Energy; and Health, Care & Well Being
- Sub-Regional Housing Strategy
- emerging Community Safety Partnership Plan
- Accessibility Strategy (part of the Local Transport Plan)
- Children and Young People Strategy
- Older People Strategy

These documents can be accessed at: [www.nsp.org.uk](http://www.nsp.org.uk).

All of these strategies and plans have been subject to extensive consultation and engagement across the partnership, particularly aimed at securing collective and extended ownership of the delivery challenges they present.

This dialogue has produced a wealth of “softer”, anecdotal intelligence as to the nature of the issues being faced by communities across Northumberland. This generated material not only reinforces the priorities derived from the quantitative evidence base but also considerably strengthens the qualitative and differential picture of life across the county.

## Agreed Priorities

The strategic priorities, which emerged from these twin processes, for the next three years were as follows:

Educational attainment and early years	Domestic violence and bullying	Sexual health
Worklessness and income deprivation	Climate change	Tourism
Business growth	Road safety	Alcohol misuse
Accessibility	Environmental quality	Cultural participation
Pathways to Services	Affordable housing	Volunteering
Mental health	Waste management	Community empowerment
Independent living	Healthy living	
Anti-social behaviour	Smoking cessation	

As would be expected, this list has a strong fit with the SCS and builds from the existing LAA.

## Developing the Local Area Agreement

The LAA has been developed in an inclusive way through the extensive partnership structure of the Northumberland Strategic Partnership (NSP), the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) for the county. The network of thematic Sector Boards and sub-partnerships together with the six district-based LSPs has largely driven the process and reported progress regularly to the Executive and Board. A LAA Coordination and Implementation Group (CIG) has helped coordinate this collaborative activity.

All relevant statutory partners with the duty to cooperate to agree LAA targets are enshrined within the NSP's governance structures, with the exception of the Highways Agency and the Health & Safety Executive. In both these cases, an approach has been made to involve them in the work of the partnership.

In addition, the wider partnership has been kept engaged in the LAA's development through open briefing sessions, regular newsletters, and a dedicated website.

The key stages in the LAA development process outlined in more detail below are summarised at Annex 1.

### **Elected member engagement**

A specific event was held to update elected members from all seven local authorities on the requirements of the new look LAAs, the councillor's role as a place shaper, and the evidence-based priorities for Northumberland. Both the Executive and Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Northumberland County Council, as accountable body, have also appraised and reviewed the content of the emerging LAA before it being approved by the full Council.

### **Voluntary and community sector (VCS) engagement**

The VCS has been engaged throughout the development of the LAA, principally through the Northumberland VCS Consortium. This forum has regularly received updates as to the emerging content of the LAA. This included a constructive discussion on the requirements of national indicator 7 (Environment for a thriving third sector). The Consortium has also directly participated in developing the LAA's through its nominated representatives to all parts of the NSP's operational and governance structure, including the LAA CIG.

### **Private sector engagement**

Involving businesses and enterprises in a process such as the LAA is very challenging. Nevertheless, the North East Chamber of Commerce & Trade and several business representatives have contributed to the process through their involvement within the NSP's operational and governance structures. More in-depth involvement of the business community has also been facilitated in those parts of the LAA that are of direct interest – skills development, tourism, and worklessness.

## Community engagement

The input of residents to the content of the LAA has largely stemmed from the consultative and perceptual-based elements of the evidence base. Articles in the local authority newsletter circulated to all households have also kept the wider public informed.

## Rural proofing

Given the geographical differentiation across Northumberland, the NSP Rural Group considered the content of the emerging LAA as to whether it sufficiently covered the issues and challenges facing the more rural and remote parts of the county. The priority afforded to affordable housing, accessibility to services, volunteering, road safety and environmental quality were particularly welcomed.

The Northumberland National Park Authority has also played an instrumental role in contributing to the rural development elements of the LAA.

## Negotiations with Government Office for the North East

The initial feedback from Government Office for the North East (GONE) to the emerging LAA clearly demonstrated the extent of shared ownership to the priorities for Northumberland:

*“GONE is content that ....*

*.... the combination of “designated” and local indicators chosen provide a good reflection of the objectives identified in the SCS.*

*.... at this early stage the combination of designated and local indicators chosen satisfy most of the requirements of our policy teams.”*

This was further evidenced through GONE’s first indicator “tracker matrix” which illustrated that there was agreement on 29 indicators within the county’s prospective list of designated indicators.

Given the depth and extent of this consensus, the negotiations with GONE have proved constructive and challenging with the final content representing a genuine reflection of bringing national and local priorities to reflect the locational circumstances of Northumberland.

## Our Performance Framework

The thematic Sector Boards and Sub-Partnerships evaluated how best the strategic priorities of Northumberland could be aligned to the emerging set of national indicators from which the designated LAA indicators had to be drawn.

From this, an initial “long” list of prospective indicators was derived. This consisted of:

- 16 statutory educational attainment and early years indicators;
- 61 indicators drawn from the national set from which the designated 35 were selected; and
- 16 additional local indicators that don't form part of the national set but that reflect significant local issues

CIG challenged the validity of this list – particularly the indicator “fit” with the delivery challenges facing Northumberland, and ranked them in priority order. This process illustrated the relative strength/likelihood of the indicators forming part of the designated list, with 39 being most favoured at this stage.

CIG then tasked lead partners for each indicator with completing a standard criteria-based template, which had to be shared and endorsed by the relevant thematic partnership before being submitted.

The template captured information in relation to:

- Impact – is the indicator recommended by more than one part of the partnership and does it require sophisticated partnership solutions to address it?
- Focus – is it the most appropriate indicator from the national set to address the specific nature of the Northumberland's challenge, does it help to improve outcomes in relation to our most ‘vulnerable’ populations and does it reflect an issue that matters to local people?
- Baseline and target setting – is there a robust baseline for the indicator and can meaningful three-year targets be established?
- Risk - is the indicator high risk either in terms of performance measurement and delivery (relating to cause and effect)?

Completed templates were centrally validated and moderated with a scoring mechanism applied to help determine the final 35 designated indicators; the scoring mechanism also took account of feedback from Whitehall.

Northumberland's final proposed LAA consists of:

- 16 statutory educational attainment and early years indicators;
- 35 designated indicators (6 of which have been deferred nationally to 2009);
- 24 non-designated indicators drawn from the national set; and
- 11 additional local indicators that don't form part of the national set but that reflect significant local issues
- 12 existing stretch targets (for 2008/09 only)

## Rationale for inclusion of non-national indicators

Eleven local indicators have been included in the LAA for one of the following reasons:

- they relate to issues that are of significance to Northumberland but are not covered by the national indicator set – these relate to business start up and enterprise; tourism and local heritage; and certain well being issues associated with older people (hip fractures and benefits take-up); or
- they relate to issues that are covered by the national indicator set but the specific measure included does not fit with the particular delivery challenges faced in Northumberland – these relate to Chlamydia, supporting people and mental health.

## Addressing the needs of our most vulnerable communities

As outlined earlier, the target communities of identity for Northumberland include children and young people; older people; and people who are discriminated against; and people on no or low incomes. A key consideration in developing the LAA has therefore been to narrow the gap in the quality of the lives of these most vulnerable populations to the rest of the county's population.

On this basis:

- 14 indicators, in addition to the 16 statutory educational attainment and childcare indicators, have been included in the LAA specifically aimed at children and young people – these include engaging more young people in positive activity; reducing youth re-offending and teenage conceptions; and addressing childhood obesity.
- 6 indicators have been included in the LAA specifically aimed at older people – these include the employment rate; fear of crime; and participation in volunteering and physical activity.
- 17 indicators have been included in the LAA specifically aimed at people who are discriminated against – these include improving literacy and numeracy rates; reducing domestic violence; addressing alcohol misuse; and supporting carers and people to live independently.
- 4 indicators have been included in the LAA specifically aimed at people on no or low incomes – these being people on benefits in the worst neighbourhoods; childcare take-up among low-income families; supply of affordable homes; and tackling fuel poverty.
- 1 indicator has been identified as the key worklessness indicator for Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) Reward scheme purposes; NI 153 Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods.

In addition, whilst the LAA is 'Northumberland-based', subsequent local delivery-plans will incorporate differential targeting relating to particular geographic parts of the county or target communities of identity as subsets of the main county-based targets to ensure a proportionate and risk based approach is taken to intervention and support.

In relation to our most deprived communities of place, this will be underpinned by the application of the "natural communities" concept' being developed as a key feature of the new unitary authority. Maximising the use of existing arrangements and structures wherever possible, this

concept will help to provide clarity as regards the roles and responsibilities of individual organisations at each level, deliver effective, joined up community engagement and ensure services are planned and delivered to best meet the needs of local people.

## Our Targets

The targets derived for each of the included indicators have been calculated from an evaluation of past trends, how the county compares with national and regional performance, and the risks associated with the cause and effect of planned partnership action. These are outlined in detail at Annex 2.

## The interface with the Tyne and Wear City Region

In tandem with this LAA, a Multi Area Agreement (MAA) for the Tyne and Wear City Region has been prepared. Its geographic coverage extends into the southern part of Northumberland and as such, the NSP has fully participated in its development. It supports the achievement of two fundamental city region outcomes:

- a competitive city-region – competitive industries and world class talent resulting in improved GVA (economic output)
- an economically inclusive city region – ensuring economic opportunity and access for all

The MAA focuses on identifying the specific barriers within two priority themes – employment and skills, and transport and connectivity – that need to be removed in order to achieve the wider goal of increased prosperity and well being within the city region. Within this, the development of stronger analytical capacity at the city region level is also recognised.

In developing the performance framework for the MAA, the following principles have been applied:

- the MAA should seek to add value above and beyond LAAs – it will not be an aggregation of current local priorities or performance
- MAA targets will illustrate key priority areas for action in the first three years but will also look towards longer term (20 year) time horizons
- the MAA will be mindful of spatial differentiation, recognising that not all the MAA targets will apply directly across the whole city region
- governance and accountability for agreeing and delivering the MAA will reside with the City Region Executive Board
- the delivery mechanisms for each priority and target area will be identified and agreed by the City Region Executive Board

Given this, three specific elements to the MAA performance framework have been derived:

- City Region MAA only specific indicators, which are not in any LAA but address key additional economic objectives
- Priorities common across all seven LAAs, where the approach is to add value to and extend the delivery of LAA targets
- Targets within 2 or more LAAs, to reflect spatial differences, where the MAA can add genuine value and support cross boundary working

This approach has ensured that the MAA adds value by widening and deepening the ability of the constituent localities to establish the necessary conditions required creating stronger economic prosperity for the people who live and work in the city region. It therefore complements this LAA and does not prejudice the effective delivery of the county-based targets. The list of MAA indicators included– and their fit with this LAA – is reproduced at Annex 3. The full MAA can be accessed at: [www.nsp.org.uk](http://www.nsp.org.uk).

# Delivering the Local Area Agreement

Northumberland's Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) demonstrates a significant shift in the complexity of partnership planning and represents a cohesive, joined up and agreed vision for sustainable communities across Northumberland. The strategy sets out an ambitious vision and challenge so that by 2021 everyone in Northumberland has the same life opportunities, is broadly satisfied with the quality of their lives and is able to influence decisions that affect them. This overarching vision is supported by seven long-term aims and a series of 28 objectives which essentially provide a menu of 'hooks' for district level community strategies and partners' corporate plans. These 'hooks' have been used as the basis for identifying priorities and for agreeing measures and targets within the LAA; this alignment of the LAA to the Community Strategy objectives provides a clear and challenging medium term delivery plan and supporting performance management framework for the Community Strategy.

## Role of the Local Strategic Partnership

The LSP is the primary delivery mechanism for the SCS and the LAA. To better support the delivery of both, the Northumberland Strategic Partnership (NSP) was reviewed; changes to the NSP's Constitution were made following the devolution of responsibility from the County Council to the NSP to develop and manage the LAA; a new Partnership Agreement was created that details the specific responsibilities of all parties in relation to governance arrangements, financial management and performance management and the NSP structure was reviewed and the following changes made:

- The NSP Executive membership was extended to include all district councils, Police, FACT, LSP (urban/rural) and a VCS (urban) rep plus Sector Board Chairs.
- The Sector Boards were reviewed and restructured to align more effectively with the Community Strategy and therefore the delivery of the LAA; membership was altered to support better district level engagement
- The FACT was formally constituted as an NSP Sector Board to help embed children and young people issues in wider partnership working.
- A dedicated, multi-agency LAA Coordination and Implementation Group (CIG) was established to manage the development and implementation of the LAA and advise the NSP Board and Executive accordingly.

## Performance Management and Reporting

All LAA targets have been assigned to a lead contact within a lead agency and aligned with the most appropriate Sector Board. An LAA Overview document was developed that shows the structure of the LAA and provides a basis for linking more detailed information, including the data audit sheets (confirming the measure definition, the source of data, the reporting timetable and interim targets) and high level delivery plans for the stretch targets (signposting supporting strategies and plans, providing an overview of interventions and specific target groups or areas); this approach will be replicated for the new look LAA for clarity and openness.

Effective performance management is first and foremost the responsibility of individual partners. All partners have their own performance management processes in place and these are inspected and assessed by external agencies out-with the LAA. The LAA process adds value to

existing processes by helping partners to collectively focus on a smaller number of shared priorities where outcomes can be significantly improved through better partnership working and pooled resources.

A dedicated LAA Performance Management Group (PMG) has been established which brings together Sector Board Executives and officers responsible for communications, performance and financial management and area profiles to ensure the planning, delivery and monitoring of the SCS/LAA is effective and coordinated; Inphase, the County Council's performance management platform is used to collate and report performance information.

A reporting framework was developed for the SCS/LAA to ensure Performance Management is robust. Responsibilities for performance management were incorporated into the terms of reference for Sector Boards and the reporting timetable ensures progress is routinely reported to and/or considered by the LAA PMG, LAA CIG, NSP Sector Boards, NSP Executive and the NSP Board.

## **Financial Management**

Responsibility for financial management was transferred to the NSP to take advantage of expertise and experience in relation to programme management. For 2007/08, business cases were completed to support the release of grant funding to partner agencies (these confirm partners' priorities and spending plans in support of the appropriate LAA targets); this approach will be replicated this year with a move towards more formal commissioning arrangements from next year.

## **Risk Management**

A full strategic risk assessment and re-assessment, as well as an operational risk assessment have been undertaken for the LAA. These have been reported through the NSP structures and to the County Council's Risk Panel. The assessments will be revisited to reflect the changes to the LAA.

## **Communications**

A communication plan has been created to ensure partners are kept fully up to date with issues and developments relating to both the LAA and the Community Strategy. The NSP's Communication Team with the support of a County Council Communication Officer coordinates the implementation of this.

## Local Area Agreement Development Process

The proposals for the new look LAA have been developed through the NSP structure and endorsed by a wide range of partners and other interested bodies. The formal decision process has been built around the following key meetings:

- 28 November – Open Partnership Briefing to advise a wider range of partners as to the new look LAA process
- 11 December – CIG meeting to discuss Sector Board recommendations and reach consensus on LAA indicators
- 13 December – NSP Board meeting to consider CIG's recommendations and endorse initial submission to GONE
- 21 January – initial feedback from GONE on development process and initial proposals
- 22 January – NSP Executive to review proposals from a wider, strategic partnership perspective
- 28 January – Open Partnership Briefing to engage a wider range of partners in the emerging content of the Northumberland LAA
- 12 February – CIG Meeting to consider the potential impact of any early difficulties with baselining and target setting
- 14 February – Elected Members' Event facilitated by the IDeA (open to councillors from all seven local authorities)
- 26 February – feedback from Whitehall on the proposed indicators
- 7 March – VCS Consortium meeting to discuss the impact of the LAA on the VCS, in particular the requirements of NI 7
- 11 March – Special CIG meeting to discuss and agree the final LAA indicators, including the recommended designated indicators
- 13 March – NSP Board to consider CIG's recommendations and endorse the final proposals as the basis for developing the Story of Place
- 25 March – NCC Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review the proposals (agreed by the partnership) on behalf of the Accountable Body
- 7 April – NCC Executive to discuss and agree LAA proposals, as recommended by the NSP Board and Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 21 April – initial feedback from GONE on the emerging suite of targets
- 22 April – NSP Executive to review proposals from a wider, strategic partnership perspective
- 24 April – NSP Board (special meeting) to endorse the final recommendations
- 13 May – LAA CIG to resolve any outstanding negotiating issues on the targets
- 21 May – County Council to formally agree the LAA for Northumberland as the accountable body
- 30 May – Final LAA to be submitted to GONE

## Local Area Agreement Targets

NI as a prefix denotes those targets drawn from the national indicator set

**Bold\*** denotes those targets that are 'designated'

Enjoy a good standard of living						
Objective	Indicator(s)	Baseline	Improvement Targets			Lead Partner / Partnership
			08/09	09/10	10/11	
Being competitive	<b>NI 171 VAT Registration Rate*</b>	Deferred nationally until November 2008				Business, Enterprise and Skills Sector Board
	NI 172 VAT registered businesses in the area showing growth	Baseline available Summer 2008	TBA	TBA	TBA	Business, Enterprise and Skills Sector Board
Unlocking our passion for learning and achieving	NI 79 Achievement off a Level 2 Qualification by the age of 19	74.1% (Cohort aged 19 in 2006/07)	77%	79%	82%	Learning and Skills Council
	NI 104 Special Education Needs (SEN) / non-SEN gap – achieving Key Stage 2 English and Maths threshold	52.18 (July 07)	51.5 (July 08)	51.0 (July 09)	50.5 (July 10)	Northumberland County Council
	<b>NI 114 Rate of permanent exclusions from school*</b>	0.12% (2006/7)	0.12%	0.12%	0.11%	Northumberland County Council
	<b>NI 117 16-18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment*</b>	8.1% (Nov 07- Jan 08)	6.3%	6.0%	5.7%	Connexions
	NI 161 Learners achieving a Level 1 qualification in literacy	Baseline not yet available	TBA	TBA	TBA	Learning and Skills Council
	NI 162 Learners achieving an Entry Level 3 qualification in numeracy	Baseline not yet available	TBA	TBA	TBA	Learning and Skills Council

	<b>NI 163 Working age population qualified to at least level 2 or higher*</b>	2006 baseline to be confirmed following re-weighting of the 2006 APS	+3.5 % points on the 2006 baseline (2009 reported mid 2010)	+5.5 % points on the 2006 baseline (2010 reported mid 2011)	+7.5 % points on the 2006 baseline (2011 reported mid 2012)	Learning and Skills Council
Fostering an enterprise culture	LOC Self employment rate	10.3% (2006)	10.5%	10.8%	11.0%	Business, Enterprise and Skills Sector Board
Opening up the opportunity to work	<b>NI 118 Take up of formal childcare by low-income working families*</b>	13% (2005/6)	1.0%	1.0%	1.0% (18%)	Families and Children's Trust
	NI 151 Overall employment rate	73.3% (2006/07)	TBA	TBA	TBA	Removing Barriers to Work Partnership
	<b>NI 153 Working age people on out of work benefits in the worst neighbourhoods*</b>	30.80% (4Q average May06 - Feb07)	29.5%	27.8%	25.9%	Removing Barriers to Work Partnership
	LOC Employment rate of older people (subdivision of NI 151)	65.5% (2004/05)	TBA	TBA	TBA	Older People's Partnership
<b>Live safely and in comfort</b>						
Objective	Indicator(s)	Baseline	Improvement Targets			Lead Partner / Partnership
			08/09	09/10	10/11	
Maintaining homes to a decent standard	<b>NI 187 Tackling fuel poverty – people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating (SAP under 35) and increasing the numbers living in properties with a high energy rating(SAP over 65)*</b>	8.7% under 35 (Feb 2008)	8.4%	8.1%	7.8%	Housing Board
		26.7% over 65 (Feb. 2008)	27.7%	28.7%	29.7%	
Providing affordable housing choice	NI 154 Net additional homes provided	1,219 (aggregated County total) (2006/07)	TBA	TBA	TBA	Housing Board

	<b>NI 155 Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)*</b>	Baseline available in August - HIP returns to CLG	196	196	400	Housing Board
	NI 159 Supply of ready to develop housing sites	Baseline not available until September, upon completion of SHLAAs	100	100	100	Housing Board
Reducing crime and fear of crime	<b>NI 19 Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders*</b>	To be introduced nationally in 2009				Youth Offending Team
	<b>NI 30 Re-offending rate of priority and prolific offenders*</b>	25	20.25 (-19%)	TBA	TBA	Probation Service
	<b>NI 32 Repeat incidents of domestic violence*</b>	To be introduced nationally in 2009				Northumberland County Council
Creating welcoming, safe and attractive places	NI 5 Overall/general satisfaction with local area	75% (LGUSS 2006/07)	75.5%	76.0%	76.5%	Northumberland County Council
	<b>NI 17 Perceptions of anti social behaviour*</b>	17 (2006/07)	15	14	13	Northumberland County Council
	NI 20 Assault with injury crime rate	2008/09 outturn will form the baseline	TBA	TBA	TBA	Strategic Crime Forum
	<b>NI 47 People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents*</b>	213.67 (2004/06 average)	187.2 (06-08 rolling average)	176.8 (07-09 rolling average)	166.4 (08-10 rolling average)	Northumberland County Council
			6.4%	5.55%	5.9%	
	LOC Percentage of older people in fear of personal crime	36.8% (Citizenship Survey 2006/07)	34.8%	33.8%	32.8%	Older People Partnership
<b>Lead healthier lifestyles</b>						
Objective	Indicator(s)	Baseline	Improvement Targets			Lead partners
			08/09	09/10	10/11	
Promoting healthy eating and keeping fit	<b>NI 8 Adult participation in sport and recreation*</b>	22.2% (2005/6)	24.2%	25.2%	26.2%	Northumberland Sport

	<b>NI 53 Prevalence of breast feeding at 6-8 weeks from birth*</b>	25% (2003)	40%	40%	40%	Care Trust
		Coverage	85%	87%	89%	
	<b>NI 56 Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6*</b>	78.7% coverage (2005/06)	85%	87.5%	90%	Care Trust
		16.6% obese (2005/06)	18.7%	19.1%	18.4%	
	<b>NI 57 Children and young people's participation in high quality PE and sport*</b>	To be introduced nationally in 2009				Northumberland Sport
	<b>NI 120 All-age all cause mortality rate*</b>	740.9 per 100,000 (Males - 2004/06)	670 (2008)	643 (2009)	616 (2010)	Care Trust
	542.8 per 100,000 (Females - 2004/06)	484 (2008)	470 (2009)	457 (2010)		
<b>NI 121 Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at ages under 75*</b>	83.6 (2004/06)	67	61	57	Care Trust	
LOC Participation of older people in sport and active recreation (subdivision of NI 8)	13.7% (2005/06)	14.7%	15.7%	16.7%	Older People Partnership	
Treating our bodies with respect	<b>NI 39 Alcohol harm related hospital admission rates*</b>	1,724 per 100,000 (2006/7)	2,075	2,251	2,420	Care Trust
	NI 40 Drug users in effective treatment	Baseline data for 2007/08 awaited	4.2%	6.3%	8.3%	DAAT
	<b>NI 112 Under 18 conception rate*</b>	38.1 per 1,000 (2003)	21	21	21	Care Trust
	<b>NI 115 Substance misuse by young people*</b>	Deferred to Autumn 2008 when a baseline can be established from the TellUs2 survey				Northumberland County Council
	<b>NI 123 Stopping smoking*</b>	942 (2006/07)	952	952	952	Care Trust
	LOC Percentage of 15-25 year olds in Northumberland screened for Chlamydia	2.8% (April to Dec. 2007)	17%	17.5%	18%	Care Trust

Safeguarding our emotional well being	NI 63 Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	66% (2006/07)	67%	77%	79%	Northumberland County Council
	NI 51 Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health services	14 out of 16 (Jan to Dec. 2007)	16	16	16	Mental Health Trust
	LOC Number of new organisations attaining the Healthy People, Healthy Business award for the promotion of mental health at work	57 (2007/08)	67	77	87	Care Trust
Supporting independent living	<b>NI 130 Social care clients receiving self directed support (direct payments/individual budgets)*</b>	184 (2007/8)	202	238	1,350 per 100,000 in receipt of 'self-directed support'	Care Trust
	<b>NI 135 Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information*</b>	29% (2007/08)	30%	31%	32%	Care Trust
	<b>NI 136 People supported to live independently through social services (all ages)*</b>	3,488 (2007/8)	3,555	3,610	3,629	Care Trust
	NI 147 Care leavers in suitable accommodation	83% (2006/07)	80%	85%	85%	Northumberland County Council
	LOC Number of older people suffering a hip fracture	532 per100,000 (2006/07)	491	479	467	Care Trust
	LOC Number of older people who take up attendance allowance	10,010 (2006/07)	10,450	10,710	10,970	Care Trust
	LOC % of service users involved in shaping Supporting People services	3.3% (2007/8)	4.0%	4.8%	5.5%	Care Trust
<b>Readily access the things they need</b>						
Objective	Indicator(s)	Baseline	Improvement Targets			Lead partners
			08/09	09/10	10/11	
Sustaining and	<b>NI 175 Access to services and facilities by</b>	<b>All ages</b>	<b>All ages</b>			Northumberland County

marketing local services and facilities	<b>public transport, walking and cycling*</b>	Within 800m walk	41%	41%	41.25%	41.5%	Council
		Within a 15 min PT journey	78%	78%	78.25%	78.5%	
		<b>Under 17</b>		<b>Under 17</b>			
		Within 800m walk	41%	41.2%	41.35%	41.6%	
		Within a 15 min PT journey	79%	79.2%	79.2%	79.7%	
		<b>Over 59</b>		<b>Over 59</b>			
		Within 800m walk	42%	42.2%	42.45%	42.7%	
		Within a 15 min PT journey	77%	77.3%	77.55%	77.8%	
Integrating our transport networks	NI 169 Non-principal roads where maintenance should be considered	2007/08 outturn to be confirmed May 2008	10%	9%	9%	Northumberland County Council	
	<b>NI 176 Working age people with access to employment by public transport (and other specified modes)*</b>	83.83% (2005)	85%	85%	85%	Northumberland County Council	
Communicating digitally	The national indicator set is limited in relation to this objective; however work to establish a suitable measure of the number of businesses taking up broadband connectivity will be undertaken locally.						
Providing seamless pathways to services	The usefulness of the national indicator set is limited in relation to this objective; however work to establish a suitable measure in relation to public service access will be undertaken locally.						
<b>Take part in cultural activity</b>							
<b>Objective</b>	<b>Indicator(s)</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Improvement Targets</b>			<b>Lead partners</b>	
			<b>08/09</b>	<b>09/10</b>	<b>10/11</b>		
Celebrating our distinctiveness	The national indicator set is limited in relation to this objective, however, NI 11 (engagement in arts), NI 9 (use of libraries), and local indicator EE082 (listed buildings at risk contribute to its delivery).						
Providing inspiration	<b>NI 11 Engagement in the arts*</b>	59.4% (Citizenship Survey)	61.4%	62.4%	63.4%	Culture and Tourism Sector Board	

		2006/7)				
Making the most of our creativity	NI 9 Use of public libraries	2008/09 outturn will form the baseline	30%	32%	33%	Northumberland County Council
Welcoming visitors	LOC The average spend per tourist trip – UK visitors	£62 per person (2005)	£68	£71	£75	Northumberland Tourism
	LOC The level of employment in the visitor economy	14,334 (2005)	14,354	14,640	14,933	Northumberland Tourism
	LOC Number of listed buildings and scheduled monuments at risk grade I and II	Buildings (2007)	12.2%	3%	3%	3%
Monuments (2007)		58.8%				
<b>Care about our environment</b>						
Objective	Indicator(s)	Baseline	Improvement Targets			Lead partners
			08/09	09/10	10/11	
Valuing our countryside and coastline	<b>NI 188 Adapting to climate change*</b>	Progress on Action Plans as at 31/3/.08	Level 1	Level 3	Level 4	Northumberland County Council
	NI 189 Flood and coastal erosion risk management	Awaiting national clarification	TBA	TBA	TBA	Environment Agency
	LOC The percentage of the total length of rights of way that are easy to use by the general public	69.72% (2007/08)	71%	72%	72%	Northumberland County Council
Using our energy wisely	Other than the stretch target to 2009 in relation to the number of gigawatt hours of micro-generation from renewable sources, there are no specific indicators aligned to this objective, however, our approach to NI 188 (adapting to climate change) will contribute to its delivery.					
Appreciating nature	NI 197 Improved local biodiversity – active management of local sites	A county wide review will provide an accurate baseline target setting basis by November	TBA	TBA	TBA	Northumberland County Council
Managing our waste	<b>NI 192 Household waste recycled and composted*</b>	34% (2006/7)	38%	40%	43%	Northumberland County Council

	NI 193 Municipal waste land filled	65% (2006/07)	50%	19%	8%	Northumberland County Council
<b>Get involved and bring about change</b>						
Objective	Indicator(s)	Baseline	Improvement Targets			Lead partners
			08/09	09/10	10/11	
Having decent places to meet and gather	The national indicator set is limiting in relation to this SCS objective, however, NI 7(environment for a thriving third sector), NI 6 (participation in regular volunteering), NI 8 (adult participation in sport), and NI 11 (engagement in the arts) contribute to its delivery.					
Encouraging volunteering	<b>NI 6 Participation in regular volunteering*</b>	20.8% (Citizenship Survey 2006/07)	20.8%	22.8%	24.8%	VCS Consortium
	<b>NI 7 Environment for a thriving third sector*</b>	National Survey required to establish baseline	-	-	4.1%	VCS Consortium
	<b>NI 110 Young people's participation in positive activities*</b>	To be introduced in 2009			Northumberland County Council	
	LOC Participation of older people in regular volunteering (subdivision of NI 6)	24.4% (Citizenship Survey 2006/07)	25.0%	26.0%	27.0%	Older People Partnership
Nurturing businesses that trade with a social purpose	The national indicator set is limiting in relation to this SCS objective, however, NI 7(environment for a thriving third sector), NI 6 (participation in regular volunteering), NI 8 (adult participation in sport), and NI 11 (engagement in the arts) contribute to its delivery.					
Embracing community participation	NI 2 Percentage of people who feel they belong to their neighbourhood	76% (Citizenship Survey 2006/07)	76.5%	77%	77.5%	Northumberland County Council
	NI 3 Civic participation in the local area	10.5% (Citizenship Survey 2006/07)	11.0%	11.5%	12.0%	Northumberland County Council
	<b>NI 4 Percentage of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality*</b>	27% (LGUSS 2006/07)	27%	29%	31%	Northumberland County Council

<b>Statutory Education and Early Years</b>					
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Improvement Targets</b>			<b>Lead partners</b>
		<b>July 2008</b>	<b>July 2009</b>	<b>July 2010</b>	
NI 92 Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	31.1 (July 2007)	29	27.92	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 72 Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal, Social, and Emotional Development, Communication, Language and Literacy	61.8 (July 2007)	62.2	63.2	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 73 Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths and Key Stage 2	68 (July 2007)	n/a	78	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 93 Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	75.5 (July 2007)	n/a	84	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 94 Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	66.4 (July 07)	n/a	79	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 74 Achievement at level 5 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 3	70 (July 2007)	n/a	75	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 83 Achievement at Level 5 or above in Science at Key Stage 3	76 (July 2007)	80	81	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 95 Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3	23.9 (July 2007)	n/a	38	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 96 Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3	64.1 (July 07)	n/a	68	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 75 Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	46.3 (July 2007)	54	56.6	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 97 Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4	53.7 (July 2007)	n/a	68.2	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 98 Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4	26.2 (July 07)	n/a	34.8	TBA	Northumberland County Council

NI 87 Secondary school persistent absence rate	5.8% (July 07)	n/a	5.5%	5.3%	Northumberland County Council
NI 99 Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	47.8% (July 07)	50%	62.5%	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 100 Looked after children reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2	52.2% (July 07)	50%	62.5%	TBA	Northumberland County Council
NI 101 Looked after children achieving 5 or more A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and Maths)	8.8% (July 07)	7.8%	23.8%	TBA	Northumberland County Council
<b>Remaining Stretch Targets (to March 2009)</b>					
Indicators	Baseline	Improvement Targets			Lead partners
		08/09	09/10	10/11	
<b>Target 1 - Healthy Schools</b>					
The percentage of schools achieving the new healthy schools standard	0% (2004/05)	90%	n/a	n/a	Care Trust
<b>Target 2 - Health Improvement (Teenage Conceptions)</b>					
Under 18 conception rate (NI 112)	38.1 per 1,000 (2003)	21	n/a	n/a	Care Trust
<b>Target 3 - Children and Young people making a positive contribution</b>					
The percentage of pupils in Ashington, Bedlington and Blyth gaining level 4+ in English at Key Stage 2	68.5% (June 2005)	73%	n/a	n/a	Northumberland County Council
The percentage of pupils in Ashington, Bedlington and Blyth gaining level 5 in English at Key Stage 2	20.3% (June 2005)	26%	n/a	n/a	Northumberland County Council
The percentage of pupils in Ashington, Bedlington and Blyth gaining level 4+ in Maths at Key Stage 2	64.3% (June 2005)	69%	n/a	n/a	Northumberland County Council
The percentage of pupils in Ashington, Bedlington and Blyth gaining level 5 in Maths at Key Stage 2	19.8% (June 2005)	25%	n/a	n/a	Northumberland County Council
<b>Target 4 - Reduction in 16 to 18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEETs)</b>					
The percentage of 16-18 year olds who are not in education, training or	9.6%	6.3%	n/a	n/a	Connexions

employment (NEET) (NI 118)	(2004/05)				
<b>Target 5 - Improved health of the population and reduced health inequalities (Breast Feeding)</b>					
The percentage of new mothers initiating breast feeding in Northumberland	43% (2003)	60%	n/a	n/a	Care Trust
The percentage of new mothers initiating breast feeding in Blyth Valley	30% (2003)	45%	n/a	n/a	Care Trust
The percentage of new mothers initiating breast feeding in Wansbeck	32% (2003)	45%	n/a	n/a	Care Trust
The percentage of new mothers breast feeding at 6 weeks in Northumberland (NI 53)	25% (2003)	40%	n/a	n/a	Care Trust
The percentage of new mothers breast feeding at 6 weeks in Blyth Valley	18% (2003)	30%	n/a	n/a	Care Trust
The percentage of new mothers breast feeding at 6 weeks in Wansbeck	18% (2003)	30%	n/a	n/a	Care Trust
<b>Target 6 - Improved health of the population and reduced health inequalities (Heart Disease)</b>					
The mortality rate for circulatory disease in people aged under 75 years per 100,000 in Blyth	103 (2004)	66	n/a	n/a	Care Trust
The mortality rate for circulatory disease in people aged under 75 years per 100,000 in Wansbeck	114 (2004)	66	n/a	n/a	Care Trust
The gap between the employment rate in Northumberland and the overall England rate	1.5% (2004)	1.0%	n/a	n/a	Removing Barriers to Work Initiative
<b>Target 7 - Reduction in volume crime in Northumberland</b>					
The level of volume crime	14,532 crimes (2003/04)	11,332 (-22%)	n/a	n/a	Strategic Crime Forum
<b>Target 8 - Reduce the fear of Anti Social Behaviour and Alcohol Related Disorder</b>					
The percentage of respondents to the Crime Survey who consider anti-social behaviour to be a problem	43% (2004/05)	37%	n/a	n/a	Strategic Crime Forum
The percentage of respondents to the Crime Survey who consider alcohol related disorder to be a problem (NI 41)	45% (2004/05)	39%	n/a	n/a	Strategic Crime Forum

<b>Target 9 - To develop more seamless pathways for customers to the required public services</b>					
The percentage of respondents to the Best Value Survey who are satisfied with the Council (all Council average)	52% (2004/05)	65%	n/a	n/a	Pathways to Services Development Group
The percentage of respondents to the Best Value Survey who are satisfied with the Council's complaint handling (all Council average)	27% (2004/05)	45%	n/a	n/a	Pathways to Services Development Group
The percentage of service requests received and dealt with at the first point of contact (NI 14)	NIL (2004/05)	60%	n/a	n/a	Pathways to Services Development Group
The number of local authority service requests and payment transactions processed online	6,500 (2004/05)	27,336	n/a	n/a	Pathways to Services Development Group
<b>Target 10 - Reducing worklessness within the communities of Northumberland</b>					
The gap between the Northumberland and England employment rate	1.5% (2004)	1.0%	n/a	n/a	
<b>Target 11 - Number of new business start ups</b>					
The number of new businesses starting through Business Link and surviving 12 months	649 (2004/05)	850	n/a	n/a	Business Link
<b>Target 12 - To increase the take up of micro generation from renewable sources in community, public sector and business locations</b>					
The number of gigawatt hours of micro-generation from renewable sources in community, public sector and business locations	1.03GWh (2005)	1.779GWh	n/a	n/a	Northumberland County Council

## Tyne and Wear City Region MAA Indicators

<b>Impact and overall contribution to Public Service Agreements (3)</b>		
PSA2	Improve the skills of the population, on the way to ensuring a world-class skills base by 2020	
PSA5	Deliver reliable and efficient transport networks that support economic growth	
PSA7	Improve the economic performance of all English regions and reduce the gap in economic growth rates between regions	
PSA8	Maximise employment opportunity for all	
<b>MAA only indicators (2)</b>		
NI 106	Young people from low income backgrounds progressing to higher education	Not included
NI 186	Per capita CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in the LA area	Not included
<b>MAA and all LAAs (1)</b>		
NI 117	<b>16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment*</b>	<b>Designated</b>
<b>MAA and some LAAs (All LAAs to have at least 2 of the following indicators) (10)</b>		
NI 151	Overall employment rate	Non-designated
NI 152	Working age people on out of work benefits	Not included
<b>NI 153</b>	<b>Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods*</b>	<b>Designated</b>
<b>NI 163</b>	<b>Working age population qualified to at least level 2 or higher*</b>	<b>Designated</b>
NI 164	Working age population qualified to at least level 3 or higher	Not included
NI 165	Working age population qualified to at least level 4 or higher	Not included
NI 167	Congestion – average journey time per mile during the morning peak	Not included
NI 174	Skill gaps in the current workforce reported by employers	Not included
<b>NI 175</b>	<b>Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling*</b>	<b>Designated</b>
<b>NI 176</b>	<b>Working age people with access to employment by public transport (and other specified modes)*</b>	<b>Designated</b>

## Rationale for indicators and targets

This paper outlines the strategic priorities and supporting objectives as detailed in the SCS. The proposed LAA indicators are defined under each objective to demonstrate the high level of alignment between the two. The rationale for choice of specific indicators is given along with any supporting evidence of need or under-performance.

**Bold\*** denotes those targets that are ‘designated’

### A. We enjoy a good standard of living

By 2021, more Northumberland residents and employers will prosper and thrive economically. Many will have embraced lifelong learning as the foundation for building their self-esteem and confidence. They will be increasingly aspirational and have a more positive enterprising and “can do” attitude to realising their personal goals. They will have fewer barriers to work and have local access to a wider range of good, long-lasting job or business opportunities.

**1. Being competitive** – we will support the competitiveness of our businesses by providing the right conditions and quality environment for them to thrive and exploit opportunities for collaboration.

Indicator(s)	Rationale and Evidence	Status
<b>NI 171 - VAT Registration Rate*</b>	Economic success underpins the achievement of whole SCS; this is a key measure of the County’s economic performance and supports the delivery of the Regional Business Support Service in Northumberland.  This indicator has been deferred nationally until November 2008; targets will however seek to maintain performance in the context of a possible economic downturn.	<b>Designated</b>
NI 172 - VAT registered businesses in the area showing growth	This measure adds value to the above designated indicator, supports the delivery of the Regional Business Support Service in Northumberland and provides a useful barometer of business growth trends.  A baseline is currently not available due to a change in methodology. ONS will publish a baseline based on 2007/08 information and when this is available the baseline and targeting will be resolved; this is likely to be by Summer 2008. Please	Local

	<p>note however that there are some issues with the reliability of the new data to be supplied by ONS.</p> <p>Although the targets have yet to be defined, any proposed increase will be stretching as it will seek to maintain performance in the context of a possible economic downturn; targeting is therefore likely to seek to secure and maintain the current position.</p>	
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**2. Unlocking our passion for learning and achieving** – we will raise aspirations and educational attainment by making it easy to access relevant and excellent learning in all its forms.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 79	Achievement off a Level 2 Qualification by the age of 19	<p>This indicator will measure the progress every area is making in the attainment of L2 qualifications by young people at the age of 19; this represents an important platform for employability, further learning and adulthood. Participation in education or training will be compulsory for 17 year olds by 2013 (and for 18 year olds by 2015), so significant progress towards this outcome needs to be made in the intervening period. Furthermore, young people who are NEET for any length of time are more likely to experience long term unemployment, suffer from depression and mental health problems and become involved in criminal or anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Whilst the County performs well at level 2 against regional comparisons, a maintained focus on some of the most deprived communities is required to ensure that all young people are able to reach this level of attainment.</p> <p>Targets aim to ensure that local progress supports national PSA targets and are considered stretching given progress over the previous three years.</p> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <p>Below average - % of the population whose highest qualification is 2 A' levels (or equivalent) (2001)</p>	Local
NI 104	Special Education Needs (SEN) / non-SEN gap – achieving Key Stage 2 English and Maths threshold	<p>Educational attainment in relation to pupils with special needs is not reflected in the 16 compulsory education PIs. Northumberland is however a pilot area for 'Narrowing the Gap' and the definition usefully includes children on 'School Action' and 'School Action Plus' as well as those with a statement of needs; supporting the needs of these pupils was highlighted as an issue within the JAR and supports future APA priorities in relation to 'Enjoying and Achieving'.</p> <p>As there are currently no projections, trajectories or national or regional comparisons for this indicator, targets will need to be revised annually.</p>	Local

<b>NI 114</b>	<b>Rate of permanent exclusions from school*</b>	<p>This is a 'cross-cutting' indicator that has an impact on narrowing the gap generally, youth offending, NEET and out of county placements more specifically and supports strategic priorities in relation to Staying Safe and Enjoying and Achieving. It also helps to strengthen the partnership with schools, training providers and businesses including their commitment to the 14-19 Strategy which is inked to skills, training and employment priorities.</p> <p>Recent school-age population forecasting shows a likely dip of ~1000 between 2009/2011; targets take account of this and reflect improvement in real numbers.</p>	<b>Designated</b>
<b>NI 117</b>	<b>16-18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment*</b>	<p>Participation in education or training will be compulsory for 17 year olds by 2013 (and for 18 year olds by 2015), so significant progress towards that outcome needs to be made in the intervening period. Furthermore, young people who are NEET for any length of time are more likely to experience long term unemployment, suffer from depression and mental health problems and become involved in criminal or anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>The figure for 08/09 is the stretch target in the LAA for 2006-09 and is therefore non-negotiable. However, given the trend over the past four years and despite the improvement in 07/08, a more realistic target for 08/09 would have been 6.7%. The target for 10/11 is lower than the existing PSA target (6.1%). However, as it gets harder to reduce the NEET figure further once it falls below a certain level, this target represent a 'levelling off' over the second and third year whilst still presenting a significant challenge to partners.</p>	<b>Designated</b>
NI 161	Learners achieving a Level 1 qualification in literacy	<p>Lifelong learning represents a key commitment within the SCS. The initial focus for this three-year period is on achievement at level 2 and skills for life provides an important pathway towards achieving that; the principal challenge in Northumberland is to get individuals locked into educational pathways to ensure that they make subsequent progress to further learning and employment.</p> <p>Baselines are currently not available due to a change in methodology. The LSC is awaiting clarification of the definition of this indicator (around qualifications which count towards the target, how to count 'jumpers', how to count 'firstness'); this is expected imminently and the baseline and targets will then be established.</p> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - % of the adult population with poor literacy skills (1997) Audit</li> <li>▪ Below average - % of the adult population with poor numeracy skills (1997)</li> </ul>	Local
NI 162	Learners achieving an Entry Level 3 qualification in numeracy		Local
<b>NI 163</b>	<b>Working age population qualified to at least level 2 or higher*</b>	Lifelong learning represents a key commitment within the SCS. The initial focus for this three-year period is on achievement at level 2; the principal challenge in	<b>Designated</b>

		<p>Northumberland is to get individuals locked into educational pathways rather than ensuring that they make subsequent progress to further learning and employment.</p> <p>Targets are based on the need to secure our good performance compared to the North East whilst continuing to move towards the national PSA targets particularly focussing on interventions in our most deprived neighbourhoods.</p> <p>For PRG purposes, the 2009/10 outturn will be used (2010 performance); the final year (2011) technically falls largely out with the timeframe of this LAA.</p> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Below average - % of the population with no or low qualifications (2001)</li> </ul>	
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**3. Fostering an enterprise culture** – we will allow a “can do” attitude to flourish from a very early age and through life thereby growing our entrepreneurial talents and developing new ways of working, products and services.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
LOC	Self employment rate	<p>Economic success underpins the achievement of SCS and the Enterprise Culture Strategy; this is a key measure of the County’s economic performance and supports the delivery of the regional enterprise framework and the LEGI programme.</p> <p>Targets are based on the average of the last three years (11%). Given the context of a possible economic downturn the aim is to stabilise and maintain a return in performance to the 11% average over the next three years.</p>	Local

**4. Opening up the opportunity to work** – we will remove the barriers to economic activity by providing individuals with comprehensive support and tailored routes to work.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 118	<b>Take up of formal childcare by low-income working families*</b>	<p>This measure contributes to the APA ‘Narrowing the Gap’ priority for Children’s Services and supports the wider economic development agenda.</p> <p>Targets are based largely on the results of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment and aim to provide a 5% improvement on the 2005/06 baseline; a GONE representative consultant will assess the potential to improve further and targets for years 2 and 3 will be reviewed as appropriate.</p> <p><i>DH Health Profile</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - the number of children who live in poverty in Blyth and</li> </ul>	<b>Designated</b>

		Wansbeck (2007)	
NI 151	Overall employment rate	<p>The Employment Rate target underpins much of the LAA and will be a reflection of the combined efforts of partners across all themes. Work and well-being are inextricably linked, and vibrant communities require people with disposable income which allows them to participate in activities. The target also provides an indicator of the general economy and demonstrates the County's contribution to the City Region and Regional economies.</p> <p>Baselining for this new target has however proved problematic; given the issues regarding the reliability of the City Region's methodology, a forecasting exercise based on previous trends, will be undertaken locally and this will be used as the basis for the projection. Targets will also aim to best support the requirements of the MAA and to reflect the Economic Assessment; both will be finalised later this year. In the meantime, the overall employment rate will continue to be monitored as a stretch target.</p> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Below average - % of the working age population who are unemployed (2006)</li> <li>▪ Below average - % of the working age population who are in employment (2006)</li> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - % of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that job prospects have got better or stayed the same (2003/04)</li> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - People aged 16 to 74 who are long-term unemployed (2001)</li> </ul>	Local
NI 153	<b>Working age people on out of work benefits in the worst neighbourhoods*</b>	<p>Reducing worklessness is a national priority underpinning economic performance and productivity and significantly contributing to 'sustainable communities'. Locally it supports the achievement of the City Region Employment and Skills Consortium targets and although the focus is predominantly on the South East of Northumberland, it acknowledges pockets of worklessness that exist elsewhere in the County.</p> <p>Targets negotiated with GONE are particularly stretching and reflect the impact the WNF and LEGI are expected to have locally.</p> <p>Given the importance of this indicator and the high level of stretch expected, it has been identified as the key worklessness indicator for Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) Reward scheme purposes; whilst other indicators might be regarded as useful proxy measures of success, reducing the number of people on out of work benefits is the primary focus of the worklessness agenda.</p>	Designated

		<p><i>DH Health Profile</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Approximately 19% of children live in households dependent on means-tested benefits (2007)</li> </ul> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Below average - Number of Job Seeker's Allowance claimants as a percentage of the working age population (March 2006)</li> <li>▪ Below average - % of Job Seeker's allowance claimants who have been out of work for more than a year (March 2006)</li> </ul>	
LOC	Employment rate of older people (subdivision of NI 151)	<p>The ageing population of Northumberland means that improving the employment rate of the over-50 age group will be integral to the achievement of the overall employment target. This age group also plays a major role contributing to the vibrancy of the community, as required for a thriving economy, and act as role models and carers for the younger population, thereby contributing to targets such as NEET.</p> <p>Targets for older people will be set within the context of the main target for NI 151; this will be considered when the requirements of the MAA become clear and the Economic Assessment is complete.</p>	Local

## B. We live safely and in comfort

By 2021, most Northumberland residents will live in a decent home that is secure and warm. They will have greater housing choice at prices they can afford. Their homes will be set in surroundings that are increasingly welcoming and pleasant – safer to walk around in, freer from litter and graffiti, and interspersed with well designed, attractive buildings and green spaces.

**5. Maintaining homes to a decent standard** – we will extend the decent homes standard to “unfit” dwellings that are privately rented or owned, and to improve the security and energy efficiency of our homes.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 187	<b>Tackling fuel poverty – people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating*</b>	The local authority housing stock in Northumberland is already at a decent standard. This SCS objective is therefore about stretching beyond that to cover private sector stock and to further enhance the thermal efficiency and security of homes; tackling Fuel Poverty represents our initial response to meeting this SCS objective.	<b>Designated</b>

		<p>Warm Zone has a sophisticated data base to track properties with a SAP rating of less than 35; these constitute a Category 1 hazard under the Health and Housing Safety Rating System and are therefore targeted for improvement. Currently 70,261 properties have been assessed. Of this number, 16,441 households are in receipt of 1 of the 5 income based benefits; 1438 of these homes have a SAP of less than 35 which gives a baseline of 8.7%. The target is to reduce the number of properties with a SAP of less than 35 which is occupied by someone on the qualifying benefits by 50 per year.</p> <p>The same approach is adopted to measure properties with a SAP of over 35 and occupied by those on qualifying benefits via the Warm Zone database. Whilst efforts will be targeted at those with a SAP of less than 35, those greater than 65 are also expected to increase over time; targets have been set accordingly.</p>	
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**6. Providing affordable housing choice** – we will attain a better balance between the range and cost of available housing and the needs of those living within our distinct housing markets.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 154	Net additional homes provided	<p>Within Northumberland, the supply of affordable housing emerged as one of the top priorities within the development of the SCS, particularly within the rural part of the county. These indicators represent a suite of inter-related issues that all contribute to attaining an appropriate balance between supply and demand within our housing markets and whilst all three are included, only NI 155 is designated; affordability is an acute problem with strong links to health and the local economy.</p> <p>Targets for NI 154 will be based upon the RSS net allocations by district contained in final RSS document to be published during 2008.</p> <p>Targets for NI 155 (2008/09 and 2009/10) represent a 50% increase on the previous best performance of 131 affordable homes in 2004/2005. The 2010/11 target of 400 is significantly more stretching but considered realistic.</p> <p>Targets for NI 159 will not be available until October 2008. SHLAAs and 5 year housing land supply assessment are new requirements from April 2007; not all district authorities have completed a 5 year housing land supply position statement. The Northumberland planning group has agreed to adopt the regional methodology and the SHLAA partnership is effectively acting as a sub group of the Northumberland Housing Board. A following draft project plan has been agreed:</p>	Local
<b>NI 155</b>	<b>Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)*</b>		<b>Designated</b>
NI 159	Supply of ready to develop housing sites		Local

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ March/April 2008- establish the group and define structures and management systems to capture the data and commence a desk top study.</li> <li>▪ May/June 2008- undertake a desktop study and undertake site visits- complete by end of June</li> <li>▪ June/July 2008- Internal and external workshops. Report and final baseline available August/September 2008.</li> </ul>	
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**7. Reducing crime and fear of crime** – we will continue to drive down crime by maintaining strong deterrents, supporting those (potentially) attracted to criminal activity from falling into the trap of offending, and bringing offenders to justice.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 30	<b>Re-offending rate of priority and prolific offenders*</b>	The need to reduce repeat offending has emerged from the CDRP Strategic Intelligence Assessment as a strategic priority. Both the baseline and the target for 2008/09 were provided by Home Office; only annual targets are agreed.	<b>Designated</b>
NI 19	<b>Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders*</b>	Reducing offending was identified in the Northumberland Strategic Assessment as Strategic Priority and forms an important component of the public's perception of community safety <i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - % of children aged 10 or over who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months who were given a final warning / reprimand / caution or convicted during the year for an offence which they committed whilst they were looked after (2005/06)</li> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - % of all children aged 10-17 living in the local police force area who had been given a final warning / reprimand / caution or convicted during the previous calendar year (2005/06)</li> </ul>	<b>Designated</b>
NI 32	<b>Repeat incidents of domestic violence*</b>	This is a predominant crime and disorder issue with significant potential for local improvement; domestic violence (DV) victims currently have the highest level of repeat victimisation, often with the severity of incidents escalating over time. This indicator has been deferred nationally until 2009; baselines and targets will be established when the definition is made clear.	<b>Designated</b>

**8. Creating welcoming, safe and attractive places** – we will implement sound maintenance regimes and design principles within our built and natural environment whilst strengthening community pride and assurance in our streets, parks and open spaces.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 5	Overall/general satisfaction with local area	<p>The inclusion of this indicator as a local measure represents one of the key barometers as to how communities feel about where they live and the public services they receive. As this is a perception based target, and therefore relatively high risk, an annual 0.5% increase in performance is considered sufficiently challenging.</p> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years that parks and open spaces have better or stayed the same (2003/04)</li> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents who think that road and pavement repairs have got better or stayed the same (2003/04)</li> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - % of residents who think that the cleanliness of the streets has got better or stayed the same (2003/04)</li> <li>▪ Below average - the % of residents who think that rubbish and litter lying around is a very big or fairly big problem in their local area (2003/04)</li> </ul>	Local
NI 17	Perceptions of anti social behaviour*	<p>Reducing anti-social behaviour (ASB) is a high profile, national priority for Government. Targets for improvement are based on the previously agreed reduction of 3% points over the period 2006/07 to 2009/10.</p> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - % of people with high levels of perceived disorder (7-strand measure) (2005/06)</li> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents who think that noisy neighbours or loud parties are a very big or fairly big problem (2003/04)</li> </ul>	Designated
NI 20	Assault with injury crime rate	<p>The impact of this indicator is very high; it supports the county's response to alcohol related crime and underpins associated indicators relating to domestic violence and anti social behaviour.</p> <p>This is a new indicator and the outturn for 2008/09 will provide the baseline figure; targets for improvement will be considered thereafter.</p> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - % of people with a high level of worry about violent crime (2005/06)</li> </ul>	Local
NI 47	People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents*	<p>This measures the total number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic accidents and contributes to the national casualty reduction target of reducing by 2010 the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents by 40%,</p>	Designated

		<p>compared with the average for 1994-1998.</p> <p>Road casualty reduction continues to be an area of concern to communities. Road casualties have significant economic and social consequences and road safety concerns can restrict participation in activities and accessing services, particularly for older and young people.</p> <p>Targets are based on a 3 year rolling average and reflect the overall target of a 40% reduction by 2010 based on the 1996 baseline.</p> <p><i>DN Health Profile</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The rate of road injuries and deaths is higher than average (2007)</li> </ul> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Below average - total number of road accident casualties (2005)</li> </ul>	
LOC	Percentage of older people in fear of personal crime (subdivision of NI 17)	<p>See NI 17 for rationale for measure and targets.</p> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents surveyed who say that they feel fairly safe or very safe outside after dark (2005/06)</li> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents surveyed who say that they feel fairly safe or very safe outside during the day (2005/06)</li> </ul>	Local

## C. We lead healthier lifestyles

By 2021, more Northumberland residents will live independently, longer and be less likely to die from heart disease, cancer, suicide or accidents. They will have greater scope to make healthier choices – by eating balanced diets, regularly playing sport or taking exercise, stopping smoking and drug taking, drinking alcohol in moderation, and handling the day-to-day stresses of modern living.

**9. Promoting healthy eating and keeping fit** – we will maximise our life expectancy by demonstrating that eating a balanced diet can be realistic, appetising and affordable and getting the heart pumping can be stimulating and fitted into our busy lives.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 8	<b>Adult participation in sport and recreation*</b>	The Government's Chief Medical Officer recommends 5 x 30 minutes per week of moderate intensity physical activity to benefit health; this includes moderate intensity sport activities and other activities such as DIY, gardening and occupational activity. Furthermore, work in support of this indicator will help to reduce barriers to participation and make sport inclusive for everyone by targeting those individuals at	<b>Designated</b>

		<p>most risk from heart disease, obesity, mental health problems or within communities where there may be particular tensions.</p> <p>Whilst performance in Northumberland is already better than the regional and national average, figures are still significantly lower than the government's expectations; targets for improvement aim to address this.</p> <p><i>Home Office Citizenship Survey, 2001</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Home Office Citizenship Survey suggested that sport and exercise is the single greatest contributor to social participation (51%)</li> </ul> <p><i>DH Health Profile</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - numbers of obese adults in four of the six district areas (2007)</li> </ul> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents who think that sport and leisure facilities have got better or stayed the same (2003/04)</li> </ul>	
<b>NI 53</b>	<b>Prevalence of breast feeding at 6-8 weeks from birth*</b>	<p>Increasing the numbers of women who choose to breastfeed their babies remains an important priority in the work to improve health and reduce health inequalities. Breastfeeding contributes to several national policies and public service agreement (PSA) targets including: Reducing the infant mortality rate; Reducing preventable infections and unnecessary paediatric admissions in infancy; halting the rise in obesity in under 11s; improving children's life outcomes and general wellbeing; and breaking the cycle of deprivation.</p> <p>Targets reflect the stretch target for 2008/09; at the end of year 1 however the targets for Years 2 and 3 will be reviewed based on the level of actual performance at that time.</p>	<b>Designated</b>
<b>NI 56</b>	<b>Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6*</b>	<p>This is a national priority and a local health priority within Northumberland that requires sustained action by a huge range of partners. Obesity may also be linked to bullying (Staying Safe) for some children.</p> <p>The targets reflect the Strategic Health Authority's coverage target for Year 6.</p>	<b>Designated</b>

<b>NI 57</b>	<b>Children and young people's participation in high quality PE and sport*</b>	<p>This indicator contributes towards a number of national PSA targets and supports a number of themes within the Community Strategy which together lead to positive impacts on the lives of young people. The ambition is for each child to have access to five hours PE and sport a week by 2012; two hours of physical education within the curriculum and three hours offered on school sites or in the community. This will be achieved by developing attractive provision designed to stimulate and increase take-up and sustain participation.</p> <p>Northumberland Sport targets are based on 741 young people per School Sport Partnership (Northumberland has six School Sport Partnerships). The first year will not commence until September 2008, so the target for year is set at 7/12 i.e. 432 per School Sport Partnership in Northumberland. The national aim of 85% of children having access to two hours per week of high quality PE and school sport by 2008, has been achieved a year early</p>	<b>Designated</b>
<b>NI 120</b>	<b>All-age all cause mortality rate*</b>	<p>This is a robust measure which is a good proxy for health status. It correlates well with life expectancy, which forms a key component of the national inequalities target.</p> <p>Targets are based on the indicative trajectories for the AAACM rate released by the Department of Health (in January 2008) as part of the monitoring for the national life expectancy inequalities target. This is based on refinements to the methodology for converting life expectancy to AAACM and better than expected performance at England level. The Northumberland AAACM rates have been revised to allow for larger mortality reductions in the Spearhead areas.</p> <p><i>DH Health Profile</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ On average, men in Northumberland live 76.7 years compared with 76.9 years for England and life expectancy for women is 80.9 years compared with the England average of 81.1 years (2007)</li> </ul> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - % of households with one or more person with a limiting long term illness (2001)</li> </ul>	<b>Designated</b>
<b>NI 121</b>	<b>Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at ages under 75*</b>	<p>Overall performance is already better than the regional average and approximately on par with the national average; but this reflects significant progress in reducing mortality and reducing the gap. The rationale for including this indicator is that despite progress, CVD remains a major cause of premature death, much of which is preventable. This indicator provides a headline measure which relates to other indicators, such as smoking quitters.</p> <p>The current (exponential) trend for Northumberland is in excess of that required to meet the 40% reduction target The current trend for the Spearhead area is in excess</p>	<b>Designated</b>

		<p>of that required to meet the 40% reduction target and the 40% gap reduction target.</p> <p><i>DH Health Profile</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - rate of early deaths from heart disease and stroke in Blyth and Wansbeck (2007)</li> <li>▪ Bottom quartile – no. of adults who eat healthily in Blyth and Wansbeck (2007)</li> <li>▪ Bottom quartile – no. of people with diabetes in 4 of the current 6 district areas (2007)</li> </ul>	
LOC	Participation of older people in sport and active recreation (subdivision of NI 8)	<p>Participation in active sport and recreational activities for those aged 50 plus has significant benefits, particularly in relation to its contribution in reducing heart disease, obesity and mental health problems and in promoting community cohesion and empowerment.</p> <p>Whilst performance in Northumberland is already better than the regional and national average, figures are still significantly lower than the government's expectations; targets for improvement aim to address this.</p>	Local

**10. Treating our bodies with respect** – we will improve health by helping willing individuals to desist from harmful drug or substance (whether legal or illegal) use, and to practice safer sex.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 39	<b>Alcohol harm related hospital admission rates*</b>	<p>Alcohol misuse impacts upon a wide range of health and social issues and affects physical and mental health, crime, attainment levels, and affects not only the health and the individual, but also has a major impact on family relationships, communities and society as a whole.</p> <p>This indicator will measure alcohol harm related hospital admission rates and will also measure the impact of prevention interventions over time – when they are improved, hospital admission rates for chronic and acute conditions associated with alcohol misuse are expected to slow in the short, medium and long term.</p> <p>Baseline data is awaited from the North West Public Health Observatory; targets for improvement will be agreed when this is established.</p> <p><i>DH Health Profile</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - an estimated 27% of adults binge drink - the rate of people admitted to hospital for alcohol specific conditions is higher than average (2007)</li> </ul>	<b>Designated</b>
NI 40	Drug users in effective treatment	Drug use causes a wide range of health and social harms, including short and long	Local

		<p>term damage to physical and mental health; it affects unborn babies and children of drug using parents and exposes drug users to risk of death from overdose and blood-borne viruses. Drug use also limits the ability to work, to parent and to function effectively in society and contributes to social exclusion.</p> <p>This indicator focuses on engaging the most problematic drug users (crack and/or opiate users) into effective treatment to reduce drug related harm to individuals, their families and the wider community.</p> <p>The targets are currently based upon 2006/07 baselines of numbers of drug users in treatment and represents the anticipated % increase of problematic drug users in treatment up to 2010/11. This baseline and annual targets will be updated in August 2008 following publication of the numbers in treatment figures for 2007/08.</p>	
<b>NI 112</b>	<b>Under 18 conception rate*</b>	<p>The national target is to halve the under 18 conception rate by 2010 (from the 1998 baseline). This is unlikely to be met but progress to date in Northumberland has been good. This is a local health priority which has a clear link to NEET.</p> <p>Targets reflect the stretch target for 2008/09; at the end of year 1 however the targets for Years 2 and 3 will be reviewed based on the level of actual performance at that time.</p> <p><i>DH Health Profile</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - the number of teenage pregnancies (under 18) in Blyth and Wansbeck (2007)</li> </ul>	<b>Designated</b>
<b>NI 115</b>	<b>Substance misuse by young people*</b>	<p>Drug and alcohol misuse amongst young people is closely linked to criminality, truancy, low attainment and other negative experiences. This indicator measures the number of young people reporting frequent use of drugs, alcohol or both via Ofsted's "Tell Us 2" survey; the baseline data for 2007/08 will be released in Autumn 2008 and improvement targets will be set thereafter.</p>	<b>Designated</b>
<b>NI 123</b>	<b>16+ current smoking rate prevalence*</b>	<p>The importance of including a smoking (or tobacco control) related indicator within the designated list of 35 signals the importance of tackling tobacco as a public health issue; smoking remains the single biggest cause of preventable mortality and morbidity in the county.</p> <p>Smoking quit rates have risen over the last 7 years, although the rate of the increase has been significantly reduced in the last 2 years. Emerging guidance from the Department of Health recognises that the quit rate cannot continue to increase and local modelling suggests that rates may have reached a maximum level. The target therefore seeks to maintain the level of quit rate set for 2007/08; this is a higher rate</p>	<b>Designated</b>

		<p>than the minimum required within the DH guidance and it is likely to be very challenging.</p> <p><i>DH Health Profile 2007</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bottom quartile - the death rate from smoking; on average smoking kills about 665 people each year in Northumberland.</li> </ul>	
LOC	Percentage of 15-25 year olds in Northumberland screened for Chlamydia	<p>Recent years have seen rapid rises in cases of a number of sexually transmitted infections, particularly Chlamydia.</p> <p>This indicator is consistent with data being collected through the national Chlamydia screening programme and estimates are based on analysis of limited local data (the service began in April 2007). Targets have been aligned with the Annual Operating Plan.</p>	Local

**11. Safeguarding our emotional well being** – we will equip our residents with the opportunities and support they need to overcome life’s challenges and contribute toward mutually helpful and tolerant communities.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	<p>Looked After children (LAC) are part of Children’s Services core business and the stability of placements impacts on their educational achievement, health and employment prospects and therefore links to NEET and compulsory education targets also.</p> <p>Targets have been set to be above the national and SN average and in line with the PSA target of 80%, but recognising that other policy priorities may affect performance and result in additional placement moves such as reducing independent sector placements by bringing children back to NCC carers.</p> <p><i>BVPI Analysis</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bottom quartile – stability of looked after children (2006/07)</li> <li>Bottom quartile – education of looked after children (2006/07)</li> <li>Bottom quartile – looked after children absent from school (2006/07)</li> </ul>	Local
NI 51	Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health services	<p>Whilst good progress has been made, this now needs to be consolidated and developed further.</p> <p>Targets represent a move to a fully comprehensive service and support the drive for</p>	Local

		continuous improvement; achieving 16 out of 16 is realistic but challenging as it is above the national and SN average.	
LOC	Number of new organisations attaining the Healthy People, Healthy Business award for the promotion of mental health at work	<p>Mental health is an important issue and people with mental health problems represent a target community within the SCS; the priority is to tailor support interventions to individuals with mental health problems and to minimise those who need to make contact with secondary health services - this locally-defined indicator is helpful in this regard. The achievement of this award requires partnership between business and the health sector and seeks to improve employee health including accident prevention, improving mental health, preventing heart disease, cancers and obesity and raising awareness of alcohol and drug misuse.</p> <p>The target aims to add 10 new businesses each year.</p> <p><i>DH Health Profile</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - the number of adults who feel 'in poor health' in Blyth and Wansbeck (2007)</li> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - the number of adults with mental health issues in Blyth and Wansbeck (2007)</li> </ul>	Local

**12. Supporting independent living** – we will give all our residents who need care and support the confidence and security to live safely in their own homes, whilst valuing and underpinning the essential role of our network of carers.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 130	<b>Social care clients receiving self directed support (direct payments and individual budgets)*</b>	<p>The increase of service user/carer control through use of Direct Payments and Individual Budgets is a key theme in Our Health, Our Care, Our Say. Considerable work has been completed 2007/08 to maximise the uptake in Northumberland but it remains a key national driver.</p> <p>Targets build on the platform of the markedly improved 2007/8 figures and assume a continuing focus on personalisation. However, given the ongoing confusion regarding the definition, the target for 2010-11 which is equivalent to just over 50% of the eligible population in 2007/8 is provisional and will need to be reviewed when a definition of the indicator is confirmed.</p> <p><i>BVPI Analysis</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile – the number of adults and older people receiving direct payments (2006/07)</li> </ul>	<b>Designated</b>
NI 135	<b>Carers receiving needs assessment or</b>	Support for carers is a key national target but, more importantly, given the changing	<b>Designated</b>

	<b>review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information*</b>	demographic in Northumberland, it will be critical in maintaining our aging population. <i>BVPI Analysis</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Below average – carers receiving specific carers services as a %of people receiving community service (2006/07)</li> </ul>	
<b>NI 136</b>	<b>People supported to live independently through social services (all ages)*</b>	Supporting people to live as independently as possible in the wider communities is a main aim within the SCS. Furthermore, Our Health, Our Care, Our Say outlines a key national directive for health and social care services to provide more low level support to live in their own homes.  Targets are based on current performance and take account of financial modelling – they substantially exceed the most recent England average (3226).	<b>Designated</b>
NI 147	Care leavers in suitable accommodation	As the corporate parent, the County Council has a special responsibility for care leavers and securing suitable accommodation is a key issue. This is also a useful proxy measure for accommodation for all young people and the new unitary local authority is an opportunity to make a big impact on this issue in partnership with local Housing Agencies and the VCS.  This indicator relates to a very small cohort; very small numbers in “unsuitable” accommodation can therefore make a large dint in the percentage. Targets are based on previous performance and the need to improve, as recognised in the JAR ands reflect local circumstances, i.e. the cohort in question, local housing strategies and local government reorganisation.	Local
LOC	Number of older people suffering a hip fracture	FISHNETS was a national pilot, one element of which was to reduce hip fracture rates. Given the level of initial local success, a focus on this work needs to be sustained until this work is fully embedded.  Definitional advice from NCHOD is that data should be based on the number of persons suffering femur fractures (excluding those to the lower end of the femur i.e., ICD-10 S72 excl S72.4); the baseline data for 2006/07 has therefore been reviewed and the target trajectory revised accordingly.	Local
LOC	Number of older people who take up attendance allowance	Many vulnerable, older people are unaware that they may have entitlement to Attendance Allowance. Take-up can be improved through partnership working to ensure people are aware of entitlement and are helped where necessary with a complex application process. There is also a potential for achieving a double benefit to the most vulnerable older people by helping them to gain attendance allowance because of disability, which will lead some to qualify for the first time for pension credit.  Targets assume an annual rate of increase of 2.5% from 2008/9, compared to around 1.8%-2.0% in previous years (2007/8 data not available). Nationally, take-up increase	Local

		has been over 3% in each recent year, but this is now slowing.	
LOC	% of service users involved in shaping Supporting People services	Improving the SP Programme performance is a key objective for Northumberland. By including a target which embeds the Programme into the LAA on a key area of the KLOES, service user involvement, focus on the SP Programme can be reinforced. Targets seek to reflect achievable growth through local partnership working.	Local

## D. We can readily access the things we need

By 2021, more Northumberland residents will feel included and informed. They will be better connected to jobs, learning opportunities and essential services through enhanced points of entry that are both convenient, affordable and welcoming to all. They will know where to turn for advice and be confident that their enquiry will be handled promptly and effectively.

**13. Sustaining and marketing local services and facilities** – we will promote and build the range of services within our main towns whilst optimising outreach and mobile service delivery and the viability of village facilities.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 175	<b>Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling*</b>	<p>Access is a significant issue across Northumberland and underpins much of the SCS. The target for LTP1 in the 2006-11 Local Transport Plan could be picked from a menu of possible indicators and Northumberland's target related to access to GP's services which is used as a proxy for access to other services and facilities. This indicator considers how social inclusion can be improved through access to core services and facilities via non-private modes of transport. It is a key social inclusion and quality of life outcome. The indicator cuts across both transport provision and service design and can assist how these are planned and delivered.</p> <p>Baseline and targets relate to access to GPIS services only in line with the agreed methodology for the LTP and reflect the background of declining commercial public transport provision.</p> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents who think that shopping facilities have got better or stayed the same (2003/04)</li> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents satisfied with the frequency of buses (2003/04)</li> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents satisfied with the provision of public transport information (2003/04)</li> </ul>	<b>Designated</b>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents satisfied with the local bus service overall (2003/04)</li> <li>▪ Below average - % of the resident population who travel to work by public transport (2003/04)</li> </ul>	
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**14. Integrating our transport networks** – we will secure the most favourable network of public and community transport services whilst providing a well maintained and extensive highway infrastructure (pavements, cycle tracks, roads, etc).

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 169	Non-principal roads where maintenance should be considered	<p>This indicator provides information on the state of the highways asset. It is important to maintain the extensive road network within Northumberland at a level to allow the safe and effective movement of private, public and freight traffic over considerable distances.</p> <p>Improvement targets have been set to maintain and improve current condition based on deterioration modelling and expected maintenance funding.</p>	Local
NI 176	<b>Working age people with access to employment by public transport (and other specified modes)*</b>	<p>This is an important indicator for improving life chances of those in deprived communities but scope for improvement can be limited depending on viability of services for transport operators. Inclusion of this indicator will encourage direct interventions (in terms of transport, planning and regeneration measures related to both employment and residential sites) to encourage economic growth and reduce social exclusion.</p> <p>Commercial service provision within the County has been reducing year on year hence targets for this indicator have been set to maintain and modestly increase accessibility.</p>	Designated

**15. Communicating digitally** – we will ensure that all our communities and businesses can access affordable broadband and have the skills and confidence to use it as a vital communication tool in daily activities.

*The national indicator set is limiting in relation to this SCS objective, however, work to establish a suitable measure of the number of businesses taking up broadband connectivity will be undertaken locally.*

**16. Providing seamless pathways to services** – we will provide a first class consumer interface to all our public services, whereby it is easy to make contact and enquiries are responded to at the first point of contact.

*The usefulness of the national indicator set is limited in relation to this objective; however work to establish a suitable measure in relation to public service access will be undertaken locally.*

## E. We take part in cultural activity

By 2021, more Northumberland residents will have broader opportunities to enjoy their leisure time. They will be regularly gathering to enjoy acclaimed events or quality venues and be equally passionate about actively cherishing their heritage and trying new things. They will be welcoming and open to sharing the considerable cultural delights on offer with visitors.

**17. Celebrating our distinctiveness** – we will celebrate the unique character of our communities and places, harness their qualities and put new life into our heritage as we go forward.

*The national indicator set is limiting in relation to this SCS objective, however, NI 11 (engagement in arts), NI 9 (use of libraries), and local indicator EE082 (listed buildings at risk contribute to its delivery).*

**18. Providing inspiration** – we will stage and enable our communities to engage in locally and internationally acclaimed events and activities in quality venues that inspire achievement and help the talent of our communities to blossom.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 11	Engagement in the arts*	<p>Northumberland already has a regional reputation for partnership working with the Arts Council, Northern Film &amp; Media and other DCMS delivery bodies and programmes are in place to work with regionally based arts organisations with audience development remits, eg Dance City, Northern Stage, The Sage Gateshead etc. There is a high level of synergy with many other targeted outcomes too, for example, health targets through the Dance Initiative and physical regeneration through the Culture 10 Northumberland Lights programme.</p> <p>A proxy baseline has been given and notional targets set but work needs to be undertaken with both regional agencies and Northumberland partners to review targets when the formal baseline is available.</p> <p><i>Taking Part, DCMS, 2006</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The national survey shows that those participating in cultural activities were 20% more likely to know ‘many people’ in their neighbourhood and around 60% more likely to believe that ‘many of their neighbours can be trusted’</li> </ul> <p><i>Culture, Participation and Civil Renewal, IPPR, 2006</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ People who participate in cultural activities are more likely than the average citizen to have trust in the police, legal system, politicians and Parliament.</li> </ul> <p><i>DCMS, internal analysis of Taking Part survey data, 2007</i></p>	Designated

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a significant link between participation in cultural activity and people being satisfied with the area in which they live. In inner city areas those who participated in culture were 10% more likely to be satisfied with where they live, compared to those who did not participate.</li> </ul> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bottom quartile - % of residents who think that cultural facilities (e.g. cinemas, museums) have got better or stayed the same (2003/04)</li> </ul>	
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**19. Making the most of our creativity** – we will build on our distinctive and considerable cultural assets to develop and maximise our potential to profit from our intellectual property.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 9	Use of public libraries	<p>Libraries are cultural venues which provide community information and places to meet. This measure supports a range of other objectives including those relating to access to information and health and better links are being made with culture, tourism, young people's agenda.</p> <p>The outturn for 2008/09 will form the baseline figure as there is no equivalent indicator at present. The suggested targets have therefore been extrapolated from the information currently available in respect of 'Active Borrowers' and incorporate an expectation that the returns on NI 9 will be significantly higher because of use by people for purposes other than borrowing, such as study, use of ICT, remote access. Targets for future years will be reviewed once the initial data collection provides a guide baseline figure.</p> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Below average - % of the population living within 1 mile of a public library (2004/05)</li> </ul>	Local

**20. Welcoming visitors** – we will improve, expand and better market our “visitor offer” of attractions, products and hospitality services, whilst respecting our built and natural environments.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
LOC	The average spend per tourist trip – UK visitors	A thriving visitor economy is important to the social and cultural wellbeing of local people; tourism is a priority growth area for economic development in the county, and is closely linked with rural regeneration and capital development programmes in	Local

		Berwick, market towns, and SE Northumberland. The targets are from the Regional Tourism Strategy and the % domestic growth targets aim to exceed annual inflation.	
LOC	The level of employment in the visitor economy	Tourism is a priority growth area for economic development in the county, and is closely linked with rural regeneration and capital development programmes in Berwick, market towns, and SE Northumberland. A thriving visitor economy also offers opportunities for volunteering which could lead to employment. The targets aim for a 2% growth per annum.	Local
LOC	Number of listed buildings at risk	The historic environment is a fundamental and inextricable element of the natural environment. It is important that those who manage protected assets appreciate the fragility of the historic features in their care. Historic sites and buildings are unique and cannot be recreated or recovered like some threatened species of wildlife. Once they are lost, they are gone forever. Historic sites and buildings play an important role in creating a sense of place. These distinctive structures give areas an extremely strong character, providing an enduring point of reference in the landscape. They help to create a unique built environment that contributes to local distinctiveness and a sense of place. Protecting the special qualities of local areas in this way is important in underpinning community identity and community cohesion as well as to support other related benefits such as tourism, heritage led regeneration or their use as a recreational or educational resource. Monitoring the condition and level of risk to vulnerable historic sites and assets, and taking appropriate steps to improve their condition, is vital to ensure their effective management and long term survival for the benefit of future generations. The targets for reducing the number of listed buildings at risk grade I and II represent a net downgrading of 8.5 entries. Those for scheduled monuments scheduled monuments at risk grade I and II represent a net downgrading of 8 entries.	Local

## F. We care about our environment

By 2021, more Northumberland residents will recognise the increasing vulnerability of the natural assets they rely upon and will be taking action to combat climate change. They will be striving to protect and enhance their unique habitats, landscapes and countryside, minimising pollution and waste, using energy prudently, and buying more produce locally.

**21. Valuing our countryside and coastline** – we will protect and enhance the quality and character of our countryside whilst facilitating responsible land management.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 188	<b>Adapting to climate change*</b>	All existing authorities have already committed to significant activity on climate change adaptation (and mitigation) by signing the Nottingham Declaration; this is also built into Blueprint Design for the new authority. High national and regional priority is being given to climate change adaptation and setting ambitious targets on this matter will reflect clear importance now being attached to this by Government and communities Targets reflect the aspiration for significant progress to be made in this area.	<b>Designated</b>
NI 189	Flood and coastal erosion risk management	Many communities within Northumberland are at significant risk from flooding and many have experienced significant flood events over the last decade; climate change will increase the overall risk of major flood events within the county. New coastal flood maps have been produced by the Environment Agency; the Agency is working with Northumberland partners to develop a Shoreline Management plan which will be completed by the end of 2008. Catchment Flood Management Plans are being produced for all the Northumberland river catchments and a significant number of these will be complete by 2008. This target will record the progress of local authorities in delivering agreed actions to implement long term flood and coastal erosion risk management (FCERM) plans	Local
LOC	The percentage of the total length of rights of way that are easy to use by the general public	The County's rights of way are an important resource for local people for recreation and for utilitarian journeys including travel to work and access to services by foot or bike; the rights of way network is also a major tourism asset. The County's rights of way network provides the means to deliver a wide range of other policy objectives including community cohesion and encouraging more sustainable transport. Northumberland has 4890 kilometres (3094 miles) of rights of way, in order for the public to get the most out of this network requires that they are available and fit to use. Targets represent incremental performance improvement in line with budget availability. <i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents who think that for their local area, over the past three years, that access to nature has got better or stayed the same (2003/04)</li> <li>▪ Below average - % length of footpaths and rights of way which are easy to use (2005/06)</li> </ul>	Local

**22. Appreciating nature** – we will create the right conditions for our wildlife and plants to adapt and flourish.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 197	Improved local biodiversity – active management of local sites	Local authorities have a responsibility under the Natural Environment and Communities Act 2007 to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity. Local parks and amenity spaces (largely under local authority ownership) therefore require appropriate management to support a network of green spaces so that wildlife can thrive in the county.  A county wide review is programmed for April-October 2008 which will provide an accurate baseline of the number of sites and the basis on which to set meaningful targets.	Local

**23. Using our energy wisely** – we will “do our bit” in saving energy, using energy efficiently, and developing natural and renewable energy sources (sun, water, wind, crops, etc) wherever this is practicable.

*The national indicator set is limiting in relation to this SCS objective and Northumberland’s local priorities, however, work to establish a suitable local measure in relation to sustainable construction will be considered.*

**24. Managing our waste** – we will minimise domestic and commercial wastes, and develop ways of converting more waste to a useable resource.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 192	<b>Household waste recycled and composted*</b>	Increasing recycling and composting is a key national performance indicator and its achievement will make a positive contribution to tackling climate change.  Targets represent a significant stretch in performance – they exceed the national household waste recycling target of 40% by 2010 and the contractual recycling target within the County Council’s Waste PFI Contract set at 43% by 2023.  <i>BVPI Analysis</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - % waste recycled and composted (2006/07)</li> <li>▪ Below average - Kg of household waste collected per head (2006/07)</li> </ul>	<b>Designated</b>
NI 193	Municipal waste land filled	Reducing the amount of waste land filled is a key national performance indicator and its achievement will make a positive contribution to tackling climate change.  Targets are based on commissioning of new Energy from Waste plant starting in	Local

		<p>January 2009, with the facility being fully operational by July 2009, the expansion and optimisation of kerbside recycling services and increased HWRC recovery performance.</p> <p><i>BVPI Analysis</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bottom quartile - % waste land-filled (2006/07)</li> </ul>	
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## G. We get involved and bring about change

By 2021, Northumberland residents will be more prepared to volunteer and constructively find ways to help themselves in realising an opportunity or tackling issues of concern. They will be capable of forming and articulating a collective view on things that matter to them and be prepared to challenge the “powers that be” with those views.

**25. Having decent places to meet and gather** – we will enable our communities to maintain community buildings to a good standard of repair and in a way that accommodates the uses they want to put them to.

*The national indicator set is limiting in relation to this SCS objective, however, NI 7 (environment for a thriving third sector), NI 6 (participation in regular volunteering), NI 8 (adult participation in sport), and NI 11 (engagement in the arts) contribute to its delivery.*

**26. Encouraging volunteering** – we will ensure that we are motivated to get involved and, when we do, we can get started, are supported to continue, and feel we’re making a difference.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 6	Participation in regular volunteering*	<p>This indicator is an important and component part of what is termed social capital and could usefully be regarded as a proxy measure for it. It is a cross cutting indicator which underpins much of the Sustainable Community Strategy and provides a surrogate measure for the county’s wellbeing. Performance is currently relatively low and work needs to start to close the gap between the rates for Northumberland and the national average.</p> <p>The target for the 2008 survey (undertaken and reported in 2008/09) seeks to maintain the status quo given the change in survey methodology at the local level; the target for the 2010 survey (undertaken and reported in 2010/11) gives a 4% improvement in line</p>	Designated

		with the GO's requirement. Both the baseline and the target will be reviewed after the 2008 survey.	
<b>NI 7</b>	<b>Environment for a thriving third sector*</b>	<p>The presence of a thriving third sector is an essential condition for the successful delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy. A strong and vigorous voluntary and community sector would have a positive impact across a wide range of indicators particularly relating to community involvement and empowerment but impacting on employability, health, child development and protection, volunteering, care and a host of other targets.</p> <p>The baseline for this measure will be available later this year although the target for improvement has already been set nationally.</p>	<b>Designated</b>
<b>NI 110</b>	<b>Young people's participation in positive activities*</b>	<p>This measure contributes towards other priorities including NEET, preventing and reducing offending and obesity and seeks to address the current poor perception of activities and facilities for young people.</p> <p>However, the consultation responses generated some concerns about the ability to measure the indicator. It is likely that this will be collected through an annual DCSF survey and will therefore not be introduced until 2009. Targets for improvement will be agreed when the baseline has been established.</p> <p><i>MORI, 2002</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 70% of young people believe that a lack of positive activities provision leads to more youth crime</li> </ul> <p><i>Audit Commission, CPA – The Harder Test, 2007</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ When asked, activities for teenagers are the local issue that most people want to see improved (39%).</li> </ul> <p><i>MORI research, 2004</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Around 80% of people believe that participating in sport teaches respect for others and increases people's involvement in community activities.</li> <li>▪ 76% of people believe that participating in sporting activities reduces anti-social behaviour/crime among young people.</li> </ul> <p><i>Audit Commission Quality of Life Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bottom quartile - % of residents who think that facilities for young children have got better or stayed the same (2003/04)</li> <li>▪ Below average - % of residents who think that activities for teenagers have got better or stayed the same. for Northumberland (2003/04)</li> </ul>	<b>Designated</b>
LOC	Participation of older people in regular	Older people (aged 50+) will play an ever growing role in volunteering activity; it is	Local

	volunteering (subdivision of NI 6)	therefore important to increase the rates of the worst performing areas. Volunteering contributes to generational mixing and social cohesion; reduces isolation and improves the health prospects of those involved. It should also be noted that the recipients of this age group's volunteering services are also often concentrated in the 50+ age group.	
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**27. Nurturing businesses that trade with a social purpose** – we will foster the development and growth of our social enterprises so that they trade independently.

*The national indicator set is limiting in relation to this SCS objective, however, NI 7 (environment for a thriving third sector), NI 6 (participation in regular volunteering), NI 8 (adult participation in sport), and NI 11 (engagement in the arts) contribute to its delivery.*

**28. Embracing community participation** – we will build the confidence and capacity of our communities to actively and constructively put forward their views.

Ref	Definition	Rationale and Evidence	Status
NI 2	Percentage of people who feel they belong to their neighbourhood	<p>A 'sense of belonging' is a central issue to the SCS and performance in relation to this indicator is currently very high (over 70%). The transition to a new local authority may however jeopardise this hence its inclusion as a local indicator; the creation of community forums at the Belonging Community level is a significant component of the new Council's way of working. Also, the number of economic migrants living and working in Northumberland continues to grow and this indicator assists in understanding whether those communities feel a sense of belonging to their new place of residence.</p> <p>This is a perception based target with no past trend information that is currently performing above the national average. It is therefore considered that an annual 0.5% increase in performance is sufficiently challenging.</p>	Local
NI 3	Civic participation in the local area	<p>One of the key outcomes of fostering community engagement in decision-making is the level to which the community start to take those decisions themselves. This indicator therefore assists in measuring the impact of the creation of community forums at the Belonging Community level; a significant component of the new Council's way of working.</p> <p>This is a perception based target with no past trend information that is currently performing above the national average. It is therefore considered that an annual 0.5% increase in performance is sufficiently challenging.</p>	Local

<b>NI 4</b>	<b>Percentage of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality*</b>	<p>This is the primary indicator that will measure the impact of the creation of community forums at the Belonging Community level and other community engagement processes proposed by the new Council; Northumberland is currently under-performing on this indicator against the national average.</p> <p>The target for the 2008 survey (undertaken and reported in 2008/09) seeks to maintain the status quo given LGR; the target for the 2010 survey (undertaken and reported in 2010/11) gives a 4% improvement in line with the GO's requirement. Both the baseline and the target will be reviewed after the 2008 survey.</p>	<b>Designated</b>
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## Statutory Education and Early Years

Ref	Definition	Notes
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	A high level of attainment amongst the whole cohort makes it more difficult to bridge the gap (some of the bottom 20% already achieve the improvement target for NI72 and score more than 78 points).
NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal, Social, and Emotional Development, Communication, Language and Literacy	As there is no national baseline assessment, there is no baseline for cohorts to make accurate predictions from. Additionally, children struggle with PSED which may affect the overall figure.
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths and Key Stage 2	These targets have been set in line with FFT B, the expected based on prior attainment and school context meaning that these targets represent a high level of attainment.
NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	
NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	
NI 74	Achievement at level 5 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 3	These targets have been set in line with the FFT D projection which is the expected performance of the top 25% of schools nationally (a DCSF expectation), they are therefore very challenging
NI 83	Achievement at Level 5 or above in Science at Key Stage 3	
NI 95	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3	
NI 96	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3	
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	
NI 97	Progression by 2 levels in English	

	between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4	
NI 98	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4	
NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate	This target is appropriately challenging and has been set following discussions with the DCSF regional adviser
NI 99	Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	Fischer Family Trust pupil level data is used to inform individual targets, this is a challenging basis for targets as it assumes progress in line with the national average for all pupils. Discussions take place with DCSF advisers to set the overall target
NI 100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2	Fischer Family Trust pupil level data is used to inform individual targets, this is a challenging basis for targets as it assumes progress in line with the national average for all pupils. Discussions take place with DCSF advisers to set the overall target
NI 101	Looked after children achieving 5 or more A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and Maths)	Fischer Family Trust pupil level data is used to inform individual targets, this is a challenging basis for targets as it assumes progress in line with the national average for all pupils. Discussions take place with DCSF advisers to set the overall target