

**ASPIRING DARLINGTON PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT
QUARTER 3 2008**

Purpose of Report

1. To detail overall performance against targets and actions contained within the Aspiring Delivery Plan

Information and Analysis

2. The delivery plan contains a 3 tier approach to monitoring performance at SCS, LAA and National Indicator level. Details are attached at Appendix 1. The delivery plan also sets out the actions to be implemented by the Children's Trust to deliver the Sustainable Community Strategy work strands.
3. This report gives a high level overview of performance against indicators and actions. More detailed analysis is available.

Performance Information and Analysis

Sustainable Community Strategy Performance Indicators	Leadofficer	Target 08-09	Current performance	Status
NI 75 Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths	Rob Thompson	50.2%	47.50%	●
NI 82 Inequality gap in the achievement of level 2 qualifications by the age of 19	Helen Ellison	53%	N/A	!
NI 102 Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at key stage2 and Key stage 4	Andrew Dunn	KS2 33% KS4 33%	21.5% 40.53%	●

4. One Darlington: Perfectly Placed incorporates 15 performance indicators (three for each of the five delivery themes). Overall the SCS is 'on target'. However, for the three indicators from Aspiring Darlington that measure a contribution to the SCS, there is currently no data available on one indicator due to data collection being on an annual basis.
5. Analysis shows that at SCS performance indicator level none of the 3 Aspiring indicators were below target overall. However NI 102 is above target at key stage 2 and below target at key stage 4. Reasons for variance are detailed below. There is not yet any data available for NI 82.

PI	Variance	Reason	Proposed Action
NI 102 KS2	-34.8%	The improvement is due to better tracking and targeting of pupils in vulnerable groups.	
NI 102 KS4	22.7%	Tracking of vulnerable pupils needs to improve.	The introduction of Assessing Pupil Progress initiative across Darlington schools will improve this situation.

Local area Agreement performance Indicators Aspiring Darlington Targets	Leadofficer	Target 08-09	Current performance	Status
NI 91 Participation of 17 year olds in education or training	Helen Ellison	81%	N/A	!
NI 63 Stability of placement of LAC length of placement	Mary Sweeney	55%	62.7%	●
NI 80 Achievement of level 3 qualification by the age of 19	Helen Ellison	46.10%	N/A	!
NI 006 Participation in regular volunteering	Mary Hall	New indicator	19.9%	!
NI 116 Proportion of children living in poverty	John Simpson	18.8%	19.1%	●
NI 57 Children and young people's participation in high quality PE/sport	Alison Raw	new indicator	89%	!
Statutory Educational Indicators				
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 and Communication, language and Literacy	Chris Archer	62.5%	48.10%	▲
NI 73 Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage2	Heather Long	76.0%	72.7%	●
NI 74 Achievement of level5 or above in both English and Maths at key stage 3	Rob Thompson	78.0%	63%	▲

NI 75 Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths	Rob Thompson	50.2%	47.7%	●
	Lead Officer	Target 08-09	Current performance	Status
NI 83 Achievement at level 5 or above in Science at key stage 3	Rob Thompson	78.0%	70.8%	●
NI 87 Secondary School persistent absence rate	Anita Hamer	7.5%	4.7%	★
NI 92 Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the early years foundation stage profile and the rest	Chris Archer	39.0%	37.30%	●
NI 93 Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	Heather Long	90.0%	82.0%	●
NI 94 progression by 2 levels in Maths between key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	Heather Long	80.0%	76.2%	●
NI 95 Progression by 2 levels in English between KS2 and KS3	Rob Thompson	39%	20.60%	▲
NI 96 Progression by 2 levels in maths between KS2 and KS3	Rob Thompson	70%	53.90%	▲
NI 97 Progression by 2 levels in English between KS3 and KS4	Rob Thompson	69.0%	56.6%	▲
NI 98 Progression by 2 levels in Maths between KS3 and KS4	Rob Thompson	34.0%	18.8%	▲
NI 99 Children in care reaching level 4 in English at key Stage 2	Emma Clark	33.3%	40.0%	★
NI 100 Children in care reaching level 4 in Maths at key Stage 2	Emma Clark	33.3%	20.00%	▲
NI 101 Children in care achieving 5A*-C GCSEs*(or equivalent)at key stage 4 (including English and Maths)	Emma Clark	0.0%	0.00%	●
Overall status – Aspiring Darlington contribution to LAA				●

6. The Local Area Agreement for Darlington is on Track. Analysis shows that at LAA performance indicator level, 2 indicators are above target, 9 are on target, 7 of the 22 indicators were below target and there is not data yet available for 4 indicators. Details and reasons for variance together with proposed ameliorative actions are

detailed below. It should be noted that all the Key Stage 3 indicators have been deleted as SAT testing at Key stage 3 is no longer undertaken and future targets will not be set.

PI	Variance	Reason	Proposed Action
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 and Communication, language and Literacy	-23.0%	Gap between Threshold Target and achievement in 2007 was 22.6% Gap between Threshold Target and achievement in 2008 is 14.4%. Darlington closer to meeting Threshold Target than in 2007.	
NI 74 Achievement of level 5 or above in both English and Maths at key stage 3 Now deleted	-19.2%	Assessing pupil progress' programme only just embedding in English and recently introduced in maths. This is projected to have impact on standards at KS3 in 2010.	
NI 87 Secondary School persistent absence rate	-37.3%	The target was set including the persistent absentees from Eastbourne school, the academy's figures are excluded from the actual performance.	All secondary schools have followed the good practice from our PA schools and introduced many of the measures consequently the number of secondary PAs has fallen across Darlington.
NI 95 Progression by 2 levels in English between KS2 and KS3 Now deleted	-19.2%	Assessing pupil progress' programme only just embedding in English and recently introduced in maths. This is projected to have impact on standards at KS3 in 2010.	
NI 96 Progression by 2 levels in maths between KS2 and KS3 Now Deleted	-23.0%	Assessing pupil progress' programme only just embedding in English and recently introduced in maths. This is projected to have impact on standards at KS3 in 2010.	
NI 97 Progression by 2 levels in English between KS3 and KS4 Now Deleted	-18.0%	Despite missing target there has been a 6.4% increase on 2007's figure of 50.2%, demonstrating a significant improvement in this area.	Further improvement will follow the roll out of 'assessing pupil progress', which enables teachers to track individual pupil progress through Key Stage 3 and use diagnostic information about pupils' strengths and weaknesses.
NI 98 Progression by 2 levels in Maths between KS3 and KS4	-44.7%	Further improvement will follow the roll out of 'assessing pupil progress', which enables teachers to track individual pupil progress through Key Stage 3 and use diagnostic information about pupils'	

Now deleted		strengths and weaknesses.	
NI 99 Children in care reaching level 4 in English at key Stage 2	20.1%	Large variance due to low number of looked after children, and movement within this cohort, i.e. target set 18 months prior to exams, and was based on a cohort of 6 children - only 5 children in actual cohort.	
NI 100 Children in care reaching level 4 in Maths at key Stage 2	-39.9%	Large variance due to low number of looked after children, and movement within this cohort, i.e. target set 18 months prior to exams, and was based on a cohort of 6 children - only 5 children in actual cohort.	

National Indicator Set (full set)	●
- National Indicator Set (Aspiring Darlington contribution)	●

There are currently 188 national indicators. There were previously 199 national indicators but a number, including the Key Stage 3 indicators previously referred to, are now deleted. 52 indicators are linked to the Aspiring Darlington Theme group, although some of these indicators are cross cutting and may also be reported in some of the other theme groups. Overall across the entire basket of national indicators, performance is on track for those indicators reporting data. Of the Aspiring Darlington related indicators which have not been previously reported above, analysis shows that 3 are below target, 8 are on target and 2 are currently above target. There are 14 indicators that show no data.

PI	Variance	Reason	Proposed Action
NI 78 Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE and equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths	200%	This is still a reduction on 07/08 from 3 to 2 schools. In one school there have been significant staffing issues in English and maths directly impacting on standards in the English and maths One school is the Eastbourne Academy, which has alternative school improvement arrangements to those brokered through the Local Authority.	In the other school there have been significant staffing issues in English and maths directly impacting on standards in the English and maths
NI 114 Rate of Permanent exclusions from schools: Number of permanent exclusions expressed as a percentage of school population	50.0%	Rate of Permanent Exclusion has halved in one year from 47 to 23 students. Target therefore missed by 2 pupils.	Improvement due to partnership agreement with schools, which has resulted in HLTAs being positioned in each secondary school to run internal exclusion units. Actual performance for this NI is based on academic year 2007-08. Darlington performance from 01/04/08 to 31/12/08 is 8 students, representing 0.05% of school population.

PI	Variance	Reason	Proposed Action
NI 117 % of 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET)	29.7%	Figure reported is November's figure, which is above target because numbers peak between June and September due to the turbulence caused by the final destinations of college leavers being unknown at this time. From October the figure has reduced - currently down 4%.	Final actual for this NI is based on the average figure for the three months November 2008 to January 2009 inclusive.

7. The SCS contains 8 work strands in the Aspiring Darlington Theme. These work strands are supported by a total of 41 actions. 95% of the planned actions to support the implementation of the Aspiring Delivery Plan have been completed within target deadlines or are on target. There are only 2 actions that have slipped or which have been delayed. A report on the status and progress on the actions is attached in appendix 1.

Work Strand Action		Reason
To develop an Engineering Skills Project, working with approximately 6 key engineering employers within the Town offering subsidised work placements to young people and some form of cash incentive to the individuals upon completion.	▲	Engineering skills project slipped due to budget constraints, will hopefully go ahead next financial year. DBC Self Development Grant scheme still operational this year but fund likely to be exhausted this financial year so may not continue
Identify and map areas of greatest need for the enhanced provision of parental engagement	▲	This task will progress with the roll out of Integrated Working Project

Recommendation(s)

8. It is recommended that members of the Aspiring Darlington Group note the contents of this report.

Murray Rose
Director of Children's Services