

**NEATH PORT TALBOT
COMMUNITY PLAN
2005-2015**

**Progress Report
2008/09**

WORKING TOGETHER FOR BETTER COMMUNITIES

THE NEATH PORT TALBOT COMMUNITY PLAN 2005-2015

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

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Introduction

This Progress Report, for 2008/2009, provides examples on how partners have advanced both the shared and the thematic visions laid out in the Community Plan 2005-2015, as well as reporting on progress made against the various measures and thematic targets.

This is the final progress report on the Community Plan 2005-2015. In some areas progress has not been reported due to a variety of reasons; changes in reporting mechanisms; changes in national targets; personnel and resource limitations; changes within partner organisations as well as a recognition of the indeterminate and unsuitable nature of some targets for Neath Port Talbot.

The review of the Community Plan is currently underway and a Draft Community Plan 2009-2019 will be launched for consultation at the Annual Partnership Seminar in November. The revised Plan will focus on crosscutting priorities and issues for the County Borough identified during recent consultations as well as current and emerging issues determined by international, national and regional government.

The coming months, let alone years, will be challenging and I hope your continued involvement and support for the Community Plan and what it represents will provide a solid foundation to meet and overcome these challenges for the benefit of all in the County Borough.

I look forward to working with all Community Plan partners, both current and new, to produce an even more visionary yet effective Community Plan for Neath Port Talbot for 2009-2019.

Steve Phillips

Chief Executive
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

The Community Plan and this progress report are available on the Council's website www.npt.gov.uk If you require a hard copy or need this information in large print, in Braille, on tape or disk, please ring the Corporate Strategy Team on 01639 763173 or e-mail corporate.strategy@npt.gov.uk

Progress Report 2008/2009

Progress Measures

1. Increase in the percentage of adults surveyed who feel they can influence decisions affecting their neighbourhood - if they wish to.

42% of respondents in 2009 (compared with 23% in 2008) felt they can influence decisions affecting their local area. 25% of respondents have also taken part in decision making groups. 36% of respondents indicated that they would like to be more involved in the decisions that affect their local area and 58% said it depends on the issue. This can be compared with 2008 results where 55% of Panellist indicated they would be interested in becoming more involved in decision making.

Source: Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Citizens' Panel

2. Increase in the percentage of people surveyed:

- **Who feel that their neighbourhood has a strong sense of community**
- **Who feel part of the community**
- **Who feel that their neighbourhood is a place where people from different backgrounds can live together harmoniously**

64% in 2009 of respondents commented positively that they feel they belong to their immediate neighbourhood. This can be compared with 52%, in 2008, who agreed that they felt part of the community.

In 2008, 52% of respondents said that people treat each other with respect and consideration, however, this question was not asked in 2009. A new question, in 2009, showed that 79% they are satisfied with their local area as a place to live.

Source: Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Citizens' Panel

3. Monitor the extent of informal volunteering.

Questions on volunteering were not asked in 2009, however, they were asked in 2008 with the following results. The different types of unpaid help that respondents give to or receive from non-relatives were identified. With regard to "giving" the three most frequently selected options were advice (29%), transporting/escorting (25%) and shopping (21%). With regard to "receiving" the most frequently selected options were transporting/escorting (11%), shopping (11%), cleaning (8%) and advice (7%).

Source: Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Citizens' Panel

4. Reduction in the percentage of people surveyed who feel they cannot participate in community and leisure activities or access health services because of transport difficulties.

Respondents were asked, in the 2009 survey, to what extent they found it easy or difficult to get to various places using their usual form of transport. Cultural and recreational facilities were seen as the least easy to get to (62%). However, it should be noted that 21% of respondents find getting to cultural/recreational facilities neither easy nor difficult, which suggests they are unaware.

The Panel was asked what they would consider to be the main barriers to accessing health care; transport was not identified by the majority of respondents as a particular difficulty.

Source: Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Citizens' Panel

5. Our long term aim is to prevent the level of prosperity in the County Borough falling from its current level of UK Gross Value Added (GVA) per head and preferably to close the gap

Baseline (2000)	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
Bridgend & NPT 71	Bridgend & NPT 69 (2003) (revised)	Bridgend & NPT 68 (2004) (revised)	Bridgend & NPT 68 (2005) (revised)	Bridgend & NPT 65 (2006) (revised)
UK 100	UK 100	UK 100	UK 100	UK 100

Source: WAG StatsWales Reports

6. To reduce the level of unemployment in the County Borough to the average for the UK as a whole.

Baseline (4/2004)	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
NPT 2.7%	2.9% (2/2006)	2.8% (3/2007)	2.4% (5/2008)	
UK 2.4%	2.7% (2/2006)	2.5% (3/2007)	2.3% (5/2008)	

Source: Claimant count rates and proportions (Nomis).

7. To narrow the gap in economic inactivity between the County Borough and the average for Wales.

Baseline (2/2004)	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
NPT 33.1%	NPT 32.3% (3/2005)	29.8% (Apr05-Mar06)	30.7% (October 2007)	30.2% (June 2008)
Wales 25.8%	Wales 25.2% (March 2005)	25.0% (Apr05-Mar06)	24.9% (October 2007)	24.2% (June 2008)

Source: Annual population survey (Nomis)

8. To get nearer to the Wales average for the proportion of the working age population claiming key benefits.

Baseline (2/2004)	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
NPT 33.1%	NPT 32.3% (3/2005)	29.8% (Apr05-Mar06)	30.7% (October 2007)	
Wales 25.8%	Wales 25.2% (March 2005)	25.0% (Apr05-Mar06)	24.9% (October 2007)	

This indicator has been revised as more information on the full range of benefits has become available.

Source: Benefit claimants - working age clients (Nomis)

9. To gauge the health of the local economy by monitoring changes in the stock of VAT registered businesses in the County Borough.

Baseline (2004)	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
NPT 2,260 (revised)	2,275 (2005)	2,445 (2006)	2,475 (2007)	NB data is one year in arrears

Source: Vat registrations/deregistrations by industry (Nomis).

10. To monitor the uptake of job related training in the previous 13 weeks for all those of working age.

Baseline (Jan-Dec 2004)	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
20.3%	19.1% (Jan-Dec 2005)	19.8% (July05-Jun06)	18.8% (Jan-Dec 2006)	No data available

Source: Source: Annual population survey (Nomis)

11. Increased use of bus services.

The patronage of bus services is one of the proposed core indicators in the Regional Transport Plan for south west Wales. However, the issue of the availability of accurate patronage data on a route by route or area basis remains to be resolved with the main bus operators in the region.

Source: Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Environment Directorate

12. Increased use of passenger rail services.

Following growth in rail patronage in Neath Port Talbot between 2006/7 and 2007/8 of over 15%, there was further growth in 2008/9 of over 12%. For a second year this included all three of the "Swan Line" stations, with growth at Baglan of over two thirds compared with 2007/8.

Source: Arriva Trains Wales

13. Increased number of work place travel plans completed and put into operation with the support of the SWWITCH Travel Plan Coordinator.

As of March 2009 there were 10 such plans in place in Neath Port Talbot, compared with 7 the previous year and significant progress had been made with several other major employers.

Source: SWWITCH

14. Increased number of school pupils covered by school travel plans.

The number of school pupils covered by school travel plans has increased in recent years as follows:

Year	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
No.of pupils	1659	1527	1944	910	1835	1341	806
Total pupils	1659	3186	5130	6040	7875	9216	10022

A further group of schools will be programmed for travel plan development in the light of travel to school surveys to be carried out in the Autumn term.

**Source: Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
Environment Directorate**

15. Reduction in road collision casualties.

The numbers of both road traffic collisions and the associated casualties fell again in 2008 compared with 2007, continuing the downward trend since 2005. Fatalities fell from 8 to 3 between 2006 and 2007, but, as for a number of years, these levels are so small that year on year changes cannot be taken to indicate a trend. Serious casualties fell from 61 to 45, but this is still significantly higher than the low point in 2004. Again the figure is of such a size that random variation is likely to occur without necessarily indicating a trend. The number of children killed or seriously injured was 7 in 2008, with no fatalities, compared with 6 in 2007, also with no fatalities, and 11 in 2006, including 1 fatality.

Current central government targets combine fatalities and serious injuries and the 2008 combined figure for Neath Port Talbot is broadly in line with the target.

Slight injuries fell to 441 in 2008, compared with 544 in 2007, 567 in 2006 and 608 in 2005. This does suggest a positive trend and, since the central government target for this category is expressed per 100,000 vehicle kilometres, thereby allowing for increased traffic volumes, the Neath Port Talbot figure for 2007 is significantly better than target.

**Source: Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
Environment Directorate**

16. Increased freight tonnage moving by rail.

It has not been possible to identify an appropriate source of data on rail freight volumes relating specifically to the county borough and this measure has therefore been removed.

Source: To be identified

17. Increased general freight tonnage moving by sea.

There was a decline of over 11% in the freight tonnage moved through Port Talbot docks in 2008/9 compared with 2007/8, reflecting the general downturn in world trade. A corresponding almost 20% decline in the tonnage moved through the deep water harbour reflects the even greater difficulties relating specifically to the steel industry. The targeted increases in traffic through the deep water harbour and the docks are linked and relate to the development of facilities and an associated increase in capacity. The plans for these commercial developments by Associated British Ports remain in place for the period 2010-2013.

Source: Associated British Ports

18. Number of matched 'switch2share' participants.

The scheme, which covers the four SWWITCH council areas, currently (July 2009) has 1525 members, an increase of over 17% since June 2008. Some 1650 journey details have been registered, which is almost 16% up on the previous year and the match rate has increased by a further 1% to 33%.

Source: SWWITCH

19. Increased use of transport provided through community enterprise.

The "Transport for Communities" initiative DANSA, based in the Dulais Valley, has continued to operate evening local bus services between Neath and Glynneath on Monday to Saturday. A total of 8143 passengers were carried in 08/09 compared to 8237 in 2007/8. A daytime service between Lower Brynamman and Swansea via Gwaun Cae Gurwen and Cwmgors was introduced in January 2007. It carried 11175 passengers in 2007/8, its first full year of operation and 15,479 in 08/09.

The scheme has also extended its traditional Community Transport Services such as group hire, dial-a-ride and community car services into all five valleys. Total passengers carried in 2008/09 were 65,915 compared with 51,600 in 2007/08.

Source: DANSA

Other indicators of economic activity

- **The contribution of manufacturing to the local economy**

Baseline (2003)	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
NPT 29.3%	23.1% (2004 revised)	23.8% (2005)	21.9% (2006)	22.4% (2007)
Wales 16%	15.2% (2004 revised)	14.2% (2005)	13.4% (2006)	13.6% (2007)
GB 12.6%	11.8% (2004 revised)	11.1% (2005)	10.9% (2006)	10.6% (2007)

Source: Annual business inquiry employee analysis (percentages are based on total employee jobs).

- **Business growth in the tourism and health care sectors**

Baseline (Tourism 2004)	2005/2006 (Tourism 2005)	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
NPT 9.5%	7.7%	7.9% (2006)	7.7% (2007)	NB data is one year in arrears
Wales 8.7%	8.4%	8.9% (2006)	8.8% (2007)	As above
GB 8.2%	8.1%	8.3% (2006)	8.2% (2007)	As above

Source: Annual business inquiry employee analysis (percentages are based on total employee jobs).

- **The development of the social economy**

In 2008, Business Connect Neath Port Talbot undertook a survey with the aim of collecting up to date information regarding social enterprise activity within the County Borough of Neath Port Talbot. A total of 131 organisations were contacted by post, email, telephone and in person. A total of 76 organisations responded (58% response rate).

From the 76 respondents in 2008, a total of 14 *existing* social enterprises and 17 *emerging* social enterprises have been identified, using the DTI and Welsh Assembly Government's definitions and three test rule. The survey did not determine whether an organisation fitted in the *potential* social enterprise

category as it was decided that this was too loose a definition to determine for the purposes of this exercise.

- **Progress with Coed Darcy**

St Modwen Developments Ltd was named last May as the preferred bidder for the Coed Darcy project and have now been handed the task of delivering the whole of the project by the project Partners.

An estimated 4,000 homes are planned for the whole site over the anticipated 20 year development period. Over half of those homes are expected to be built during the next 10 years.

Work has now started on site:

- Demolition of 40,000 sq ft of disused buildings at the existing entrance of the 1,060-acre site has been completed in preparation for the next phase of development.
- The demolition of parts of the remaining former BP service buildings on site and what is known as the Bath House Complex is progressing.

This work forms a major step towards creating the new entrance road to the site, which will lead to the realignment of the B4290 and near-by junction, helping to reduce current traffic congestion levels and provide access to the planned residential and commercial developments.

Since St Modwen acquired the site, they have demolished a significant amount of former BP infrastructure and are making good progress on the remediation work for the first section planned for residential property development.

- **New developments at Baglan Energy Park.**

Baglan Energy Park is key to the Council's plans to transform the area to secure a green industrial future and create thousands of jobs.

Having already attracted world class investment from a range of companies, the Park has also recently won a British Urban Regeneration Award, Local Government Chronicle and Health Service Journal Communities Award and an Excellence Wales Award in recognition of best practice in regeneration.

Recent developments at the park include:

- Wales' first Renewable Hydrogen Research and Demonstration Centre opened in October last year. The £1.7m Centre, developed by The University of Glamorgan and Neath Port Talbot CBC explores the potential use of hydrogen as one of the key fuels of the future.

- Work on the first phase of a 65,000 sq ft industrial and office space development on the park by Mardon Properties Ltd is now completed. The development provides suitable space for small and medium sized businesses and, with the first phase nearing full occupancy, plans are already in place to further develop the site to accommodate up to 480 jobs.
- One Talbot Gateway, a 45,000 sq ft premier office facility located at the entrance of the Park is now fully let. Welsh Water and the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Health Trust both occupy approximately 22,000 sq ft.
- Ecolab's Centre of Excellence for Contamination Control; Shield Medicare moved into the purpose-built 50,000 sq ft manufacturing facility in 2008. The company is a market leader in the supply of specialist contamination control products to pharmaceutical, biotechnology, healthcare and medical device industries worldwide. The site houses some of the most innovative technology in the industry, including state-of-the-art cleanrooms and laboratories.
- NPTCBC's new office complex, The Quays, was selected as one of the best buildings in Wales in 2008. The site accommodates over 500 staff as well as the Council's Service Response Centre.

Confident Communities

There is no one supporting partnership for this overarching theme. However, there are a number of existing groups that meet to address community development issues and these include the Community Development Officer's Forum, Communities First Co-ordinators Network and the Community Planning Voluntary Sector Forum. These groups make an important contribution to the achievement of this theme. Also groups such as the Children and Young People' Framework Partnership, Youth Council, Older Persons' Consultation Forum, Older Persons' Council, Disabled Persons' Advisory Group, Disabled Persons' Network and Forum help ensure that different communities of interest have the chance to have their say.

Voluntary Sector Forums facilitated by Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service (NPTCVS) continue to meet on a regular, planned basis. Further joint consultation held to update the Disability Equality Scheme for each of the statutory bodies.

Examples of how the promises, aims and targets for this theme have been taken forward during 2007/08:

Engagement and Partnership Working

The Neath Port Talbot Local Service Board has commissioned a joint citizen engagement project, which has resulted in a joint strategy and toolkit, together with the concept of a website engagement hub. The overall aim is to ensure there is greater co-ordination and better use of resources between key partners when engaging with citizens.

Many partners actively engage with different communities of interest, including NPTCVS, who help support a number of fora. An update follows on some specific engagement channels.

Older Persons' Council (OPC)

The OPC, which consists of 12 older citizens from across the county borough has continued to meet on a monthly basis and is represented on a number of groups that consider issues that matter to older people. Representatives have also attended a range of events including visiting older person groups, to acquire the views of older people, as well as provide information about the Strategy for Older People and the OPC. Also during this period, two successful mini and one main 'Have Your Say' events have been held for older people, which have helped ensure that a range of older persons' views and experiences are highlighted and addressed by partner organisations.

As a result of such events, innovative projects have been developed which have directly benefited older people.

The OPC has continued to meet with the Cabinet of the County Borough Council three times a year and also with the Chief Executive to ensure that the views of older citizens are listened to at the highest levels within Neath Port Talbot. Because of the success of the public appointments approach to recruitment, the Welsh Assembly Government considers the County Borough Council's approach to be a model of good practice. A further recruitment exercise has been conducted, which has improved representation across the county borough.

Children and Young People

A Neath Port Talbot Participation Strategy for Children, Young People and their Families has been produced and consulted upon with a range of stakeholders. This included children, young people and their families being asked to provide their views on the 'promises' within the participation strategy, as part of the wider consultation on the Single Children and Young People's Plan.

Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Forum

The County Borough Council, NPTCVS and now the Local Health Board, have continued to meet with representatives from the BME community. Topics of interest have included the provision of community care, educational achievement of schoolchildren and health services. The Council and the Local Health Board held workshop sessions with the Forum as part of the review process for their respective Race Equality Schemes.

Tenants and Residents Groups

The County Borough Council's Housing Services continue to help support a number of tenants and residents groups, who help express the views of a cross section of the county borough's residents.

Communities First

The Communities First programme has recently expanded to include new areas of the county borough. The process of consulting with the communities in these new areas and engaging with local organisations and individuals is now underway.

In the original ten established geographical areas this consultation process has resulted in the completion of an action plan by each partnership, which outlines locally-identified priorities for each community.

Covering a range of issues and working in partnership with a wide variety of organisations, the work of Communities First is focussed on addressing these priorities. Detailed below are a few examples of the work recently and currently occurring within the county borough:

- Briton Ferry West Cyberzone – an IT suite developed after being identified as a priority need during local consultation has become a very popular, well-utilised community resource
- Walking groups – have been established in a number of Communities First areas such as Neath East and the Upper Amman Valley, who have then been instrumental in assisting new clubs to emerge in other areas such as Pelenna & Cwmafan
- Fairyland Learning Community Account – 20% of participants from Fairyland have now entered employment following completion of the project
- Cwmafan Residents Action Committee – have been supported in developing a local youth forum (Cwmafan Youth Action Committee) to encourage young people in local decision-making and promote active citizenship
- Upper Amman Valley Tourism Sub Group - have produced a brochure to publicise local facilities and services
- Skills for Regeneration – Four people from Communities First wards continue to receive training and work experience with local Communities First Partnerships and NPTCVS. The scheme is due to end in June 2008.
- Pilot Taxi Card Scheme – Continues to operate in eight wards including four Communities First wards. Welsh Assembly Government funding has been extended to March 2009 and evaluation is currently being undertaken.
- Communities Next Consultation organised jointly with the County Borough Council. Deputy Minister, Leighton Andrews AM spoke about Welsh Assembly Government's vision for the next phase of Communities First.
- New forum established to provide support to the chairs of Communities First Partnerships.

In addition to the projects and events occurring in individual communities, efforts are also being co-ordinated to address themes common to many or all Communities First areas in Neath Port Talbot. Such themes include Health & Well-being, Children & Young People, and Transport. The formation of a Strategic Working Group will aim to increase the scope for collaborative working with strategic partners to strengthen the Communities First process across the county borough.

Cross Border Collaboration

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPTCBC) and Powys County Council continue to meet quarterly to address issues of joint interest for neighbouring communities in the Upper Swansea Valley. The meetings are attended by Elected Members, town and community councils, the Police, Local Health Boards and Communities First Co-ordinators. Topics that have been considered in depth include: community policing, tackling economic inactivity and refuse including street scene services.

Information, Advice and Guidance

Community Spirit

The partnership newspaper "Community Spirit" aimed at all of the county borough's residents, with its three localised editions continues to provide a wide range of information about different services and initiatives and provides insights into local citizens' experience of living in the area.

Western Valleys Strategy

During 2007, a further five roundtable meetings were held with organisations and individuals involved with community based initiatives in the valleys. Such meetings provide the opportunity to consider the progress made against the Strategy's action plans and consider future joint initiatives.

Monitoring Report

- 1. Increase in the percentage of households who consider that Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council provides information in the language and format of choice.**

To help assess this measure, questions were included in the October 2006 Citizens' Panel questionnaire. In 2008, only 2% of panellists (compared to only 3% in 2006) had tried to contact the Council in Welsh in the 2 years prior to the survey.

The majority of respondents who tried to contact the Council in Welsh in the last 12 months were satisfied with the Council's ability to communicate in their preferred language. However, during 2005 the opinion of panellists as to the Council's use of the Welsh language was rather negative.

The Council's website homepage has a link whereby the website can be translated into a number of other languages. During 2008, of those 40% aware of the link, 6% had made use of the facility, compared to 8% in 2006. In 2008, out of a total of 10 respondents, 2% had used large print, 1% used Braille and 1 % used CD. This compares in 2006 with 2% reporting they had tried to acquire information from the Council in a different format.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC

2. **All 10 of the Communities First partnership areas to have produced action plans by 2006**

	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09	
Baseline (Feb 06)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
4	10	4+	10	7+	10	10		

Action plans for all 10 established partnerships has now been completed and are available to download from the Communities First sections of the NPTCBC intranet and internet sites. Consultation to determine local priorities in the new Communities First areas is now occurring.

Lead Partners: Communities First Partnerships

3. **Each of the 10 Communities First partnership areas to annually assess their ability to effectively engage with their local communities and communities of interest.**

Numerous consultation events have been held throughout the ten established Communities First areas and continue when specific thematic issues arise at a local level. Projects and events (see Confident Communities context chapter) continue to raise the profile of the programme locally and offer opportunities to engage with local residents and groups. Communities First Partnerships evaluate their progress by having partnership reviews or informal discussions during the regular partnership meetings.

A number of the recommendations of the Communities First review report published in May 2007 related to the partnerships active engagement with their local communities. An action plan has been developed to implement the reports recommendations and the Strategic Working Group will monitor progress of these actions.

Lead Partners: Communities First Partnerships

4. **Increase the number of referrals from front line employees to "quality marked" advice services following the distribution of Shelter Cymru "Information Matters" project by 5% per annum.**

	2005 Jan to Dec)		2006 (Jan to June)		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (2004/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
294	634	592	665 (*250)	359	NA	NA	NA	NA

* Revised target based upon performance

During the lifetime of this pilot project (July 2004 to June 2006), client referrals from problem noticers with copies of the pack to specialist advisors increased by 46% against a target of 15% (cumulative). This equates to over 1,300 referrals from problem noticers. The pilot project in Neath Port Talbot has now come to an end.

Lead Partner: Shelter Cymru

5. **Percentage increase in the number of people participating in volunteering activities on a regular basis, focusing upon young people and those from black and minority ethnic communities.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (March 2005)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
329	396	371	436	376	479	411	526	

10% of the above targets are to consist of young people, i.e. up to the age of 25 and people from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities.

There were 14 people from ethnic minorities, which equates to 3.72%. There have been 86 young people under 24, which equates to 22.8%.

Lead Partner: NPTCVS

6. Net increase in number of new voluntary sector initiatives established and new funding generated.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (March 2005)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
4	5	26	6	21	7	28	8	

NPTCVS are aware of twenty eight new groups that have been established during 2007/08. With regard to the net amount of new funding generated, NPTCVS has confirmed that for the local voluntary sector £1,413,220.00 has been secured during 2007/08.

Lead Partner: NPTCVS

7. Increase in the number of new social enterprises formed.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (March 2005)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
3	5	10	7	11	9	13	11	

Lead Partner: NPTCVS

8. Increase in the number of training courses held for volunteers and community groups and numbers participating.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (March 2005)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
56	59	91	62	69	65	27	67	

During this period April 2007 to March 2008, 199 people have participated in a range of training sessions organised by NPTCVS.

The number of courses has been affected by the ending of Objective 1 funding and the introduction of an all-Wales voluntary sector infrastructure training programme.

Lead Partner: NPTCVS

- 9. Four local communities (outside of Communities First areas) to be given the opportunity to identify their own targets and contribute to community audits and action plans.**

The Western Valleys Strategy annual roundtable meetings, to which a cross section of organisations and individuals involved in community development initiatives are invited to, contributes to the achievement of this target.

Lead Partners: NPTCBC

- 10. Increase in the number of young people involved in youth projects to 1900 by 2007.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (2003/04)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
1200	1700	1808	1900	1900	1900	1947		

Lead Partner: NPTCBC

- 11. Increase the percentage turnout for local elections**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (2004)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
42.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	45%	44.48	45%	

The turnout for the Local Government Elections 2008, across 39 out of the 42 electoral divisions¹, in Neath Port Talbot was 44.48%. There was an electorate of 101,657 who could have voted at the Local Government Elections.

The Electoral Commission have released Wales-wide turnout figures for the Local Government Elections 2008. They reported a national turnout of 44%².

¹ This excludes the electoral divisions of Baglan, Cwmllynfell and Lower Brynamman as these areas had uncontested elections.

² Based on 599 out of 881 wards for which data was available.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC

12. Produce Local Interpretation Plans with 6 local communities, which will help make local heritage sites more accessible and produce an overarching Interpretation Strategy for the Neath Valley by 2009.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (2004/04)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
Tonna LIP Pilot Project	1 (A)	0	3 (A,R & Neath East – TBC)	0	3 (A,P & NA)		3 (TBC) NVIS	

A = Aberdulais

R = Resolven

P = Pontardawe

NA = Neath Abbey

NVIS = Neath Valley Interpretation Strategy

Local Interpretation Plan: Plan to make heritage sites more accessible.

Lead Partner: NPTB Groundwork

Economic Prosperity

Introduction:

This report has been coordinated by the Council's Economic Development and Valleys Programme Unit. It summarises how strategic partners have worked together over the last year to develop and deliver a series of initiatives, which work towards achieving the 16 aims of the Economic Prosperity theme of the Community Plan 2005-2015.

Business Support:

During the past year partners have had to adapt to significant changes in the delivery of the Welsh Assembly Government's business support programmes.

Having completed a review of the Business Eye service throughout Wales, a new Flexible Support for Business Regional Centre contract for South West Wales was the subject of a tendering exercise during the last quarter of 2008. NPTCBC led a regional consortium of Local Authorities which was successful in its bid to deliver the service from April 2009.

Up until March 2009, support to existing and potential new businesses continued to be provided through the Swansea Bay Business Eye service. Over 1,300 requests for support were received, with over a third of enquiries sourced from residents of Neath Port Talbot or from businesses considering setting up in the area.

Business Connect also continued to provide support to both new business start ups and existing companies providing 1,500 business meetings, which resulted in the creation of 137 new jobs, 156 safeguarded jobs, and investment worth £1.8 million. They also delivered 59 one-day training Workshops and 127 one-day Business Surgeries for the Welsh Assembly Government. Through a targeted funding arrangement with NPTCBC, one-to-one advice sessions to 85 start ups and 73 existing companies were provided, along with Marketing, IT, Local Inter-Trading and Management Accounting systems support. Their involvement under the Rural Development Plan resulted in interviews with 54 potential entrepreneurs and 50 existing small businesses.

NPTCBC completed a 6-month extension to its European Objective One funded Development Grant Scheme resulting in £117,500 of grants being made available to support 32 start-ups and 18 existing businesses, creating over 120 full time equivalent jobs and safeguarding a further 33 jobs. In partnership with neighbouring Local Authorities, it also launched the South West Wales Local Investment Fund to provide grant funding to new and existing companies throughout the region.

In response to the current recession, which continues to affect local companies in a variety of ways, NPTCBC has designed and implemented a 'Business Health Check' service to provide tailored support to help owner managers identify actions to deal with issues they may face as a result of the

current downturn. A review of the criteria for applications to its Flexible Loan Scheme should also encourage a wider take-up for start-up and existing businesses.

The Council continues to support the principles of the Welsh Assembly Government's 'Opening Doors Charter' to create an open and fair environment in which local companies can do business with the Council. Having set up a Local Sourcing Framework agreement, work is progressing on developing projects that maximise employment opportunities for local people and contract opportunities for local businesses.

Social Enterprise:

The Neath Port Talbot Social Enterprise Network has continued to play a major role in driving the development of social enterprise in the County Borough. The first Neath Port Talbot Social Enterprise Strategy is in the process of being finalised and seeks to identify key actions to be developed over the next 3 years in order to advance the sector significantly.

One priority identified within the Strategy is the development of a One Stop Shop to offer consistent support to potential, emerging and existing social enterprises in Neath Port Talbot. Partners are currently investigating sources of funding for this project. Partners including Neath Port Talbot CVS, Business Connect NPT, Communities First, WAG DE&T, Business Eye and NPTCBC have continued to support social enterprises across the County Borough.

Neath Port Talbot CVS and NPTCBC are working with regional partners to secure Convergence funding for the 'Collaborative Communities' project. This bid aims to support the development of 6 to 10 flagship social enterprises across the region as well as smaller social enterprises. A decision is expected from the Welsh European Funding Office on the way forward for the project in the summer of 2009.

Youth enterprise:

During the last year partners have continued to actively support initiatives that foster an enterprise culture in young people. There are currently 182 school and college students registered with Young Enterprise with whom a range of activities are undertaken in addition to the company and team programmes. This has led to the following:

- 18 Young Enterprise companies set up stands and traded at the annual Christmas Trade Fair.
- 32 Young Enterprise achievers attended a training event for report writing and presentation skills.
- 8 schools and 62 pupils participated in the one-day business competition 'Tomorrow's Entrepreneurs'.
- 17 pupils from Llangiwig primary school joined an after school enterprise club, learning business skills from organising their own events and setting up stands to sell their hand crafted products.

- The Enterprise Learning by Doing project ran in 4 valley communities with 66 participants, 30 of whom attended a 3-day Summer Workshop programme.

The annual Swansea Bay Young Achiever Awards were held at Margam Orangery in 2008. The event celebrated and rewarded the achievements of young people and the contribution they make to the area and their communities through business, training, education and voluntary work.

Inward investment:

Partners have helped to facilitate investment by identifying funding and helping developers to market their new or refurbished premises. The County Borough is the base for many innovative businesses and Business Connect Neath Port Talbot has continued to support them, predominantly in conjunction with the Assembly's Innovation and Technology Counsellor and under the auspices of the SMART Cymru grant.

NPTCBC offers an Account Management Service to both existing businesses and potential inward investors, with the aim of assisting and facilitating the specific needs and requirements of both parties. During the year, the service worked with 26 local businesses, on over 80 projects and activities. This amounted to approximately £22 million of investment related to these projects, with the safeguarding and creation of over 300 jobs. In this period, 3 inward investment projects were also secured into the area.

Physical regeneration:

The Council has continued to encourage private sector investment in commercial properties throughout the County Borough through the operation of its Commercial Property Grant (CPG), part funded by the Welsh Assembly Government. In 2008/09, a total of £293K went towards the improvement of 14 properties, generating over £300K of private sector investment. In Neath town centre this was supplemented by the Town Scheme Grant, aimed at restoring heritage features on properties within the conservation area.

In Neath, the £8.2 million European Objective 1 funded package of schemes was completed, with only the redevelopment of the Liberal Club and CPG schemes failing to draw down the full allocation. Progress on the Neath town centre redevelopment scheme continued with the holding of a successful and positive consultation event in the autumn.

Tourism development:

In 2008/2009 a range of projects have been implemented to move forward to tourism development aspirations in the County Borough. A successful application for Rural Development Plan funding has secured a number of tourism development focused projects for the rural wards of the County Borough.

The 'Y Gronfa Wledig' grant scheme has been launched and interest has been expressed from a range of third sector organisations. The grant scheme enables eligible groups to implement projects that promote the rural and cultural heritage of rural wards within Neath Port Talbot. The 'Accommodation Provider's Grant Scheme' scheme is also proving popular with enquiries being received from a number of tourism accommodation providers in the area. The purpose of this grant scheme is to develop the quality and amount of visitor accommodation within the rural wards of the County Borough. A grants officer has been in post since January 2009 to co-ordinate these schemes.

The Rural Development Plan funding secured by NPTCBC also enabled the Valleys team to recruit 2 Tourism Development Coordinators to devise tourism action plans for the Valleys areas and deliver tourism development outcomes until February 2011. The 2 posts which cover the Swansea/Upper Amman and the Neath/Dulais Valleys will use the success of Afan Forest Park as a model to work from. Partnership steering groups will be set up in June 2009 and will involve stakeholders from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors.

In 2008/2009, the development of good quality accommodation continued to be a tourism development priority and the capital programme accommodation improvement grant helped 3 more accommodation providers to improve their facilities. The conditions of the grant fund were amended in 2008/2009 to make provision available for the non-rural wards of the County Borough and to match the maximum grant contribution of £4,000 available through the Rural Development Plan funded Accommodation Provider's Grant Scheme. 2008/2009 was the final year of the capital programme accommodation improvement grant scheme.

NPTCBC secured £5,000 grant funding from the Environment Agency 'Splash' initiative to develop a water sports guide for Neath Port Talbot which will promote the responsible and sustainable use of the water based resources that the area has to offer. The guide is due to be published in June 2009.

A new 'destination' website for Neath Port Talbot was also designed and went live in 2008/2009. The new site, accessed at www.visitnpt.co.uk, provides information that is specifically designed to attract visitors to the area and presents a more consistent approach to showcasing what Neath Port Talbot has to offer.

Economic inactivity:

The latest available figures (June 2008) show a slight increase in the Economic Inactivity Rate for Neath Port Talbot over the last 12 months from 29.6% to 30.2%. However, the count for Job Seekers Allowance claimants in Neath Port Talbot for March 2009 increased to 4,006 (4.9% of working age population), which showed a 46% increase on the December 2008 figure of 2,747.

Measures to alleviate long-term unemployment and economic inactivity continue to be developed by partners across the County Borough area and the region as a whole. Some Convergence-funded projects were approved during 2008 including Jobcentre Plus sponsored Want2Work, Welsh Assembly Government sponsored Genesis, and the Local Authorities led COASTAL project. It is anticipated that the South West Workways project, which will extend the successful Neath Port Talbot model across the region, will be approved by the Welsh European Funding Office during June 2009.

The Neath Port Talbot Workways project, part-funded through the European Social Fund, closed on 31st December 2008, having made a significant impact in supporting local people and employers since 2004. During that time, 617 participants gained sustainable employment as a direct result of project intervention, with over 1,000 others receiving advice and guidance from project staff.

Recommended changes in the way that the Department of Work and Pension's Deprived Areas Fund is administered regionally have been submitted by a partnership of organisations within the Swansea Bay Spatial Plan area. Previously administered by Jobcentre Plus, it is planned that the Fund will take the form of a Grant Programme for the period 2009-2011. The Deprived Area Fund has been a key instrument in providing additional help for tackling worklessness since 2007, and will offer considerable scope to develop local solutions within 20 identified wards in Neath Port Talbot.

Cross-border collaboration:

Partners within the region continue to be involved in the variously themed Swansea Bay: The Waterfront and Western Valleys Spatial Plan groups. To complement the Spatial Plan, WAG has designated the Western Valleys area as a Strategic Regeneration Area (SRA) and partners are involved in developing an action plan to identify key projects to be developed within a short time frame.

The Regional Partnership Forum for South West Wales (RPFfSWW), coordinated by the WLGA, continues to ensure a collaborative approach to developing Convergence projects and has developed a comprehensive matrix detailing Local Authority and WAG Convergence activity.

The European and External Funding team provides the Spatial European Team outreach function for Neath Port Talbot. The SET function is managed by the Welsh Assembly Government Department of Economy and Transport (DE & T) with outreach teams in all Local Authorities. DE & T chair monthly sub-regional meetings for all outreach teams in the South West. In addition there is cross border collaboration on a pan-Wales basis.

There is scope to develop further cross-border collaboration under the Rural Development Plan 2007- 013 programme which ring fences funding for collaborative activity.

Conclusion:

This section provides a summary of the considerable achievements that strategic partners have achieved during 2008/09. The Economic Prosperity Partnership will continue to provide a focus to steer this part of the Community Plan and seek to renew objectives in light of the anticipated review of the Community Plan.

Monitoring Report

- 1. To have completed Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Baglan Energy Park by successfully marketing the sites and securing in total 2,000 jobs, and to have progressed the development of Phases 3 and 4.**

Significant progress to date:

- Intertissue: 300 jobs to date
- Remploy currently occupying Gemini Court: 90 jobs
- Montagne Jeunesse currently occupying Astral Court: 125 jobs
- The Quays building occupied in December 2007: 500 jobs
- The Mardon development: Phase 1 completed (future expansion planned)
- Ecolab: 125 jobs
- Countrywide Surveyors: 60 jobs
- University of Glamorgan: Hydrogen Research Facility
- Sustainable Technologies Technium

Lead Partner: Welsh Assembly Government DE&T.

- 2. To have let the available space at the Sustainable Technologies Technium and ECM² creating up to 350 high tech, and research and development jobs.**

Technium Sustainable Technologies has been slow to take off, but as of the end of March 2009 4 tenants were in occupation with several enquiries in the pipeline. As more attention is given to the development of the knowledge economy at the spatial plan level and with the prospect of Convergence funding being targeted at more research and development in key sectors, the Technium should begin to play a more important role in the local economy. In the longer term, the availability of this high quality business space will be of benefit in attracting higher paid jobs to the area.

At present the Technium houses 56 jobs. Engineering Centre for Materials and Manufacturing (ECM²) currently has 28 tenants with 85% of space let, and employs 180 people in permanent jobs.

Lead Partner: Welsh Assembly Government DE&T.

3. Create 500 new sustainable businesses through the new business starts programme and social enterprise.

It is currently not possible to measure the number of new sustainable businesses created through the business starts programme due to changes in WAG funding arrangements. This target will need to be reviewed in the new version of the Community Plan.

The Voluntary Organisation Support Unit, an Objective 1 funded project run by Neath Port Talbot CVS, was the principal means of help for the social enterprise sector until funding ended in December 2007; over the lifetime of the project 193 groups were assisted/supported. Business Connect's 2008 Social Enterprise Survey identified 14 existing social enterprises and 17 emerging social enterprises, using the DTI and Welsh Assembly Government's definitions and three test rule.

Lead Partner: Welsh Assembly Government DE&T and NPTCVS.

4. To have increased the stock of industrial and commercial premises by 25,000m² through new build, refurbishment and extensions to existing premises.

In addition to the projects mentioned in the main body of the report, the development of plot 3 at Baglan Energy Park has been supported by WAG and was completed during 2008/09, providing a total of 39,011 sq ft of industrial and 10,086 sq ft of office floorspace. In addition, 200,000 sq ft of industrial floorspace has been rebuilt at Fabian Way.

This is a total area of 249,097 sq ft which equates to 23,141m² which is slightly under the annual target. However, taking into account last year's achievement of 89,769m², the year on year average remains significantly greater than the target figure.

Lead Partner: Welsh Assembly Government DE&T.

5. To have placed over 400 economically inactive people in jobs through the 'Workways' transitional employment project.

At the close of the four and a half year European Objective 1 project at 31 December 2008, 617 local residents had secured jobs through the "Workways" project.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC Economic Development Unit.

6. **Maintain and where possible increase the number of employers undertaking workforce development and encourage more employees to take up education and training opportunities.**

No data available: Economic Prosperity Partnership to review target.

Lead Partner: Welsh Assembly Government DCELLS.

7. **To produce eco tourism policy statements for at least 15 Wales Tourist Board graded accommodation providers by 2009.**

The Green Dragon environmental standard is offered to businesses who wish to implement environmentally friendly practices within their business, and provides recognition for those who put in place environmental management systems.

Businesses which hold the standard are able to take a step by step approach to integrating environmental systems into their working practices. The standard ranges from step 1 to 5 and each business produces an environmental policy. In total, there are now 23 businesses in Neath Port Talbot who have achieved the Green Dragon Award. There are 7 new awards, 5 of which are tourism business providers. Please see the table below for details:

Business Name	Nature of Business	Level
Afan Valley Bike Hire	Bike Hire	2
Bryn Bettws Log Cabins	Accommodation	2
Crynant Cottages	Accommodation	2
Cilhendre Fawr Farm	Accommodation	2
The Ystalyfera Victorian Market	Local Food Market	2
Dulias Valley Partnership	Local Development Trust	2
Swansea Valley Holiday Cottages	Accommodation	2

Confirmation is waiting to be received as to whether the Green Dragon scheme is to continue into 2010.

Visit Wales operates a policy where it only lists accommodation, which has been fully inspected and graded for quality. The inspections or quality assessments are undertaken on an annual basis so that booking can be made with confidence. Neath Port Talbot now has over 35 Visit Wales graded accommodations in the area ranging from 2 to 5 stars.

Lead Partner: Visit Wales.

8. Complete the programme of townscape enhancements currently underway in Neath and to undertake a 'health check' of the three main town centres in Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe by 2006.

All of the townscape enhancements that formed part of the European Objective 1 ERDF funded package of schemes have been completed.

A "health check" of Neath town centre was completed with the assistance of NPT College students. This was a pilot study and is being evaluated with a view, possibly, to extending the project to Port Talbot and Pontardawe.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC Property and Regeneration.

9. To fully implement the Afan Forest Action Plan.

In 2008 the new action plan 'Afan Forest Park Directions and Actions 2008–2011' was finalised and published. The new Afan Forest Park Coordinator was also recruited to implement and move forward the new 3 year action plan. This post is jointly funded by NPTCBC and Forestry Commission Wales. The action plan is a partnership document with a number of organisations involved in moving projects forward. Projects in the action plan fit under the following 5 themes:

- Community Buy In
- Commerciality
- Building on Current Facilities
- Promotion
- Widening the Product Offer

The following developments have moved forward since the action plan has been in place:

- Continued progress with the Connect2 Aberavon to Afan Forest Park cycleway, with numerous sections of the route already complete.
- New interpretation boards and trail maps at the start of all mountain bike routes
- Launch of the walking packs for Afan Forest Park and Glyncorrwg Ponds including a community walking event.
- The opening of Afan Lodge, Afan Forest Park's first hotel, with 17 en-suite bedrooms and a café/bar and restaurant.
- The development of Neath Port Talbot's first Youth Hostel Association accommodation. Bryn Bettws Lodge will have 40 bunk house bed spaces and an on-site café for residents and non-residents.
- Numerous other new self catering cottages have been established in the park, increasing the number of bed spaces.
- The new South Wales Miners Museum has opened. The museum undertook extensive renovations in 2008 and re-opened in a purpose built building in November 2008.

- A new bridge has been put in place by Forestry Commission Wales, below the Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre.
- A networking evening for local businesses was held in Glyncorrwg Mountain Bike Centre.
- There is new interpretation in the Afan Forest Park Visitor Centre and new heritage boards located at various sights of interest around the park.

Lead Partner: Forestry Commission, NPTCBC Economic Development and Valleys Programme Unit.

Education and Lifelong Learning

The provision of quality learning opportunities for all ages continues to be offered within our nursery settings, within schools, the college, work based learning provision, adult community learning, youth support services and vocational training. All the provision is both self-assessed and evaluated externally by Estyn and Neath Port Talbot remains one of the best authorities in Wales for all its Education and Lifelong Learning provision. The partnership approach taken in the preparation of the Self Evaluation Report for the Adult and Community Learning Inspection was recognised by Estyn as a model of good practise and the subsequent Inspection was very positive, placing Neath Port Talbot at the forefront of provision in Wales.

The Directorate of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning received an Excellence Wales Award for its School Improvement programme, for its Adult Community Learning and its work with young people at risk of exclusion. Neath Port Talbot College has been awarded Beacon status for Business Studies.

Work on inter-generational learning opportunities and on developing Family Learning programmes, particularly in valley communities is a priority. There is an emphasis on tackling the essential skills needs of the citizens of Neath Port Talbot and 1 in 3 people continue to have difficulties in literacy or numeracy. The NPT Essential Skills Strategy is being implemented in order to tackle this deficit.

Work on sustaining access to IT opportunities and developing E-learning programmes for work, training and recreational purposes is supported through a partnership approach amongst providers. The development of an E-Portal is progressing, which will coordinate and promote IT based learning opportunities across the county borough.

Community based learning continues to be supported through European funding and NLN partnership. Work is in progress to develop a Convergence bid to support and develop this area. NLN has produced the Neath Port Talbot Community Learning Plan, with 15 key objectives, amongst which are the promotion of a new Learner Support Service, a shared quality system across all providers, and a shared curriculum that is inclusive and is based on both the skill needs of the area and the promotion of active citizenship.

Partnership working lies at the heart of our approach, whether it be through the Framework for Children and Young People, the 14-19 Network, the New Learning Network or local associations of Headteachers.

We continue to promote a community focus within our schools and community buildings and to involve communities in the planning of provision.

We will also develop additional vocational learning opportunities to meet the skills needs of local employers and to broaden the curriculum for our young people both in school and in post-16 education.

We are actively promoting the entrepreneurial and aspirational learning culture through Young Enterprise programmes and through an innovative Enterprise Learning by Doing Project, aimed at young people up to the age of 25. This is being used as an example of good practice across the UK.

We will promote childcare training and developments through the Flying Start initiative, Genesis project and Integrated Children's Centres. Parenting and mentoring projects and specialist support programmes for children and young people with additional needs or at risk of antisocial behaviour continue to be promoted and developed.

The Changing Context of Education and Lifelong Learning

The Children Act 2004 requires Local Authorities in Wales to prepare and publish a single plan for services to children and young people. Following extensive consultation on the draft Plan the Neath Port Talbot Children and Young People's Plan was published in autumn 2008.

The plan is a strategic overview and will replace the:

- Children's Services Plan
- Single Education Plan
- Young People's Partnership Strategy

The key to effectiveness will be partnership working which puts in place effective integrated services for children and young people. The intention is to improve the quality and quantity of services by driving forward improvements in outcomes for children and young people delivered by strengthened co-operation across the public and voluntary sectors.

The basis for determining priorities and objectives which will determine local strategic decisions are the seven core aims set out by WAG:

- Flying Start in Life
- Education and Learning Opportunities
- Health and Freedom from Abuse and Exploitation
- Access to Play, Leisure and Culture
- Respect
- Safety
- Not disadvantaged by poverty

In addition, Youth Support Services are underpinned by 10 entitlements set out in the Learning and Skills Act 2000.

The challenges for developing local coherence and integrated planning are significant and delivery improved outcomes for children and young people will be a significant part of the Community Plan in the future.

Partnership Work

The Education and Lifelong Learning element of the Community Plan covers a very wide range of providers and partners including:-

- NAASH – Secondary Head Teachers Association
- LLAN – Primary Head Teachers Association
- CCET – Neath Port Talbot Consortium for Education and Training
- NLN – New Learning Network
- CYPP – Children’s and Young People’s Partnership

Monitoring Report

- 1. To have implemented the Action Plan arising from the audit of need in respect of family learning.**

16 Family Learning programmes were held in 2008/09 at primary schools in Communities First areas. A further 16 Family learning courses will be held in targeted schools in the 2009-10 academic year. These will follow on from workshops and short courses to engage targeted parents and will link to literacy and numeracy in the school curriculum enabling parents to better support their children’s learning.

Lead Partners: NPTCBC, NPT College and Basic Skills Agency

- 2. To promote continuous improvement in school, performance as evaluated against all-Wales benchmarks and averages and to be pro-active in addressing under-performance.**

‘A’ Level WJEC examination board data:

2 or more A to C grades:

	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	2008 Target	08
All Wales	64	65	67	78	72	68	68	74	74	N/A	69
NPT	66	63	70	77	84	75	76	62	75	80	82

2 or more A to E grades:

	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	2008 Target	08
All Wales	93	94	94	98	96	95	97	97	97	N/A	94
NPT	89	96	96	98	98	99	98	99	99	99	99

Advanced Subsidiary:

2 or more A to C grades:

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 Target	2008
All Wales	65	69	59	69	69	62	63	N/A	TBC
NPT	71	72	69	63	67	59	67	65	64

2 or more A to E grades:

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 Target	2008
All Wales	90	93	88	90	90	88	90	N/A	89
NPT	92	94	94	94	94	92	93	93	94

Schools Performance:

The Core Subject Indicator (CSI) is the percentage of pupils achieving the expected level in each of the core subjects (English or Welsh, Mathematics and Science).

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 Target	2008
Key Stage 1 CSI	79 (81)	79 (80)	77 (79)	76 (80)	78 (81)	75 (81)	76 (80)	77 (N/A)	78 (81)
Key Stage 2 CSI	67 (68)	64 (68)	67 (69)	69 (72)	71 (73)	70 (74)	72 (74)	72 (N/A)	73 (75)
Key Stage 3 CSI	50 (50)	51 (50)	54 (53)	60 (57)	58 (57)	57 (58)	59 (57)	57 (N/A)	60 (60)

() = Figures for Wales

Key Stage 4		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008 Target	2008
% achieving 5 or more GCSE's or equivalent	A*-C	49 (50)	51 (50)	50 (50)	54 (51)	57 (52)	60 (54)	61 (54)	61 (n/a)	62 (56)
	A*-G	83 (85)	84 (85)	84 (85)	87 (85)	88 (85)	89 (86)	88 (86)	88 (n/a)	89 (86)
% Entered for at least one CoEA or short course GCSE			100	99 (97)	99 (97)	99 (97)	98 (98)	99 (98)	99 (n/a)	98 (98)

() = Figures for Wales

The percentage achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C in 2008 exceeded Neath Port Talbot's previous highest performance and was well in excess of the 56% national average. This, in conjunction with our position in relation to national averages for the KS1, KS2 & KS3 CSI above, illustrates the progressive improvement in educational attainment in Neath Port Talbot through the key stages.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC

- To increase the level of school attendance by 1% per annum, for example, by the development of suitable alternative curriculum provision and developing basic skills by utilising a range of approaches and working effectively with the 14-19 Learning Network.**

For the first time in 2007/08 the WAG gathered individual pupil attendance records directly from schools, providing a more accurate picture of performance. Previously, the possible number of sessions was calculated by multiplying the number of pupils on roll at the January Plasc by the number of school days. NPT's 2007/08 secondary attendance of 92.1% was the Authority's highest since 2003/04, the second highest in Wales, and well above the national average of 91%.

Baseline (00/01)	2002/03		2003/04		2004/05		2005/06		2006/07		2007/08	
	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
89.6%	90.5 %	91.6 %	90.7 %	92.3 %	91.0 %	91.8 %	91.5 %	90.7 %	91.3 %	91.5 %	91.6 %	92.1 %

Lead Partners: NPTCBC and 14 to 19 Network

4. **90% of young people at 16 will continue in full-time education or enter training or employment that leads to a recognised vocational qualification. To monitor the number of young people furthering their career or learning in Neath Port Talbot.**

	2002/03		2003/04		2004/05		2005/06		2006/07		2007/08	
Baseline (00/01)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
84.5%	85.5%	84.0%	87.0%	87.0%	88.5%	88.4%	90.0%	89.8%	90.0%	90.6%	n/a	92.1%

The 2006/07 and 2007/08 figure is based on NEET (not in education, employment or training) data found on the Careers Wales website.

Lead Partners: NPTCBC and Neath Port Talbot College

5. **To increase the take-up of higher education courses by 4% per annum and to develop the status of vocational skills.**

	2003/04		2004/05		2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09	
Baseline (00/01)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
497	537	903	559	755	581	936	604	932	n/a	956	n/a	1085

The total of 1085 going onto higher education in 2008/09 represented a 13.5% increase on the previous year (figures supplied by Student Pupil Family Awards).

Lead Partner: Neath Port Talbot College

6. **To continually review youth provision and participation and to deliver the Young People's Partnership Strategy and its annual targets for 2002-2007.**

The work of the three pilot zones has identified the need to use existing partnerships and structures to take forward the development of youth provision at a local level. The roll out of the zonal approach to reviewing current provision and developing new opportunities for young people will take this learning into account. The Youth Services Review Implementation Group will request existing partnerships to consider youth provision in their areas and, where partnerships or networks do not exist, the youth service will take the lead in establishing a zonal practitioner group for that area.

The Rolling Zone mobile youth provision was launched in September 2008. The Zone is effectively a club on wheels and provides the opportunity to deliver youth activities anywhere within the authority. It is targeted where there are gaps in provision. The Rolling Zone is very popular with young people. 1387 young people have participated in youth service activities that previously may not have been available in their area because of the lack of a venue.

Lead Partners: Neath Port Talbot Children and Young People's Partnership and the Youth Service

- 7. To progressively involve communities in the provision of youth services, in partnership with the statutory and voluntary youth providers and to provide an additional 3 services per annum.**

The statutory youth service has been restructured to form 3 geographically based teams, the Eastern Cluster, Central Cluster and Western Cluster. This has improved partnership working and has led to an increase in the number of service level agreements and the sharing of training opportunities and jointly funded projects.

The introduction of the Rolling Zone and the increased partnership working undertaken by the Youth Service within local communities has resulted in more young people accessing statutory provision. There has been an increase of 826 young people in contact with the service. The actual number accessing the statutory service has risen from 4,228 in 2006/07 to 5,054 in 2007/08. Further work is needed to enable effective joint monitoring of participation levels by young people across both the statutory and voluntary sector youth service provision.

The aim is to increase the percentage of young people reached so that all young people, in every community within Neath Port Talbot, have access to the same opportunities, provided either by the maintained youth service or by the voluntary sector.

Lead Partners: NPT Young People's Partnership, NPTCBC, NPTCVS and Voluntary Sector.

- 8. To widen participation of adult learners by evaluating and building on current provision, geographic spread and range, flexibility and accessibility of current provision. To meet perceived needs with improved quality delivery and to facilitate a learning culture by increasing retention and attainment.**

In response to Estyn and WAG requirements, emphasis has been changed from the number of adults recruited onto courses to ensure targeted groups are engaged, retained and achieve accreditation. Further changes in the way

in which adult learning is funded and targeted are anticipated in the Assembly's Adult Education Review. Therefore the fully funded programme has been adjusted to target learners with low qualifications. The unit cost of such learners is higher so the targets have been reviewed and development has been based on raising the retention and attainments levels which have moved from 43% to 60% since 2004. Alternative funding avenues and cost recovery formula are being sought to support learning for leisure, pleasure and well-being.

Lead Partner: NLN

9. To increase the adult guidance provision to offer 700 interviews to adults needing support in taking first or next steps in learning.

The Lifelong Learning Service Adult Guidance Service delivered 642 Guidance and Signposting interviews in 2008-9. Most of these were to people seeking to become engaged with learning for the first time as an adult, others were to help existing learners make the best progression move to achieve their ambitions.

Lead Partners: NPTCBC, Careers Wales West, Job Centre Plus, NLN

10. To deliver basic/skills via the adult curriculum and make them explicit to learners as a guide to transferable employment skills. To maintain the network of local action centres and local satellites which deliver a curriculum that embeds key skills.

The network of Local Action Centres (ACL) and satellites is established, a system is underway and continues to be developed which properly rewards learners for their contribution to ACL in Neath Port Talbot and thereby helps secure their future. They will continue to be used to deliver community learning courses regardless of on-going European funding after the current Objective 1 support ceases at the end of December 2008.

Key and basic skills are embedded within all the adult community learning and work based learning curriculum areas across the county borough. A joint Basic Skills Strategy is being developed with NPT College and other providers which will enable innovative delivery to targeted individuals. This will form Neath Port Talbot's local delivery of the Regional Essential Skills project being developed for support from Basis Skills Cymru and the ESF Convergence Fund.

An innovative programme is being developed which will offer people with the most barriers to learning a 3 part programme consisting of a learning preparation period in which confidence will be built up and learning skills acquired, a personalised learning programme and a transition period which will enable the learner to move forward to campus based or work based learning, employment or self employment. This will be delivered using the

good practice, partnership approach between the third sector, the learning provider partners and employers.

Lead Partners: NLN, WEA, NPTCBC, NPT College, Voluntary Sector.

- 11. To maintain the number of internet access points available to the public above 100 as a minimum and ensure that access is available in every community area in Neath Port Talbot by 2008.**

All libraries now offer free internet access (107 access points) and most partners within Lifelong Learning and Leisure are involved in the support and delivery of ICT services, including internet access. The full extent of public internet access is currently impossible to measure accurately. The indicator and targets have been reviewed and as a result it has been concluded that all public libraries in Neath Port Talbot are at saturation point in terms of physical capacity. Therefore it is not appropriate to increase the number of internet access points in libraries, particularly given the increasing levels of personal access to the Internet.

Lead Partners: NLN and NPTCBC

- 12. To increase access to leisure facilities, such as leisure centres and country parks, by people who are disadvantaged, unemployed or with low incomes by 1% per annum, with an overall aim of matching average rates for Wales in the longer term.**

The 2003/04, 2005/06 and 2007/08 figures below relate to the biennial surveys at leisure centre facilities. No surveys were undertaken during 2008/09.

	2003/04		2004/05		2005/06		2006/07		2007/08		2008/09	
Baseline (00/01)	T	A*	T	A*	T	A*	T	A*	T	A*	T	A*
5.6	5.7	5.9			5.8	4.9			5.9	5.6		

The usage of leisure facilities by this group has been assisted by the re-launch of the Passport to Leisure scheme. This scheme offers reduced entry to Celtic Community Leisure facilities for those disadvantaged in terms of income.

Lead Partners: NPTCBC and Celtic Leisure Trust

13. To increase the number of visits to libraries by 3% per annum and to cultural activities by 3% per annum.

	Baseline 2002/03	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09
M	17,830	20,843	24,764	20,924	17,533	14,276	12,252
T	148,703	179,120	156,332	163,815	140,322	116,908	126,861
L	742,327	791,813	787,050	797,162	778,507	771,338	763,371

Museums

Overall figures for the two museums have fallen continually since 2004/05. This is due to the decline in public support for Neath Museum, whose location, some distance from the town centre and its limitation in terms of space has had a clear negative impact. The mining museum at Cefn Coed however continues to enjoy a wide range of support from schools, heritage groups and the general public. Contributing to this has been the link with local railway societies which now use Cefn Coed as a permanent exhibition area. Numbers did fall in 2008/09 due in part to the retirement of the Museum Education Officer

Theatres

During 2008/09 aggregate visits to The Princess Royal Theatre & Pontardawe Art Centre were the highest recorded. Whilst numbers attending Pontardawe Arts Centre have remained relatively consistent over recent years, despite the continued reduction in snooker usage, visits to The Princess Royal Theatre increased by 19% over the past year, and were the facilities highest on record. Regarding The Gwyn Hall, the County Borough has made clear its intention to rebuild the venue and plans are well advanced with the architects. Public consultation has provided support for the venture, which is due for completion mid 2011.

L= Libraries

Visits to libraries in recent years have fallen steadily due to the following:

- i) Refurbishment work at a number of libraries e.g. Neath, Skewen, Baglan & Sandfields, resulting in reduced opportunities for public usage.
- ii) There is an increasing trend for the public to access libraries by electronic means. The use of the Internet to request books and information from libraries has had an effect on the number of people who make physical visits and this trend is likely to increase with the introduction of a new library management system in August 2008.
- iii) Our expenditure on books and other stock is substantially less than the minimum required by the Welsh Public Library Standards.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC

14. To build on and support the strategic priorities of the Children and Young People's Framework Partnership Plan and to deliver the targets in its supporting plans, with specific emphasis on early intervention and co-ordination with the Health, Social Care and Well-being Strategy.

The Children and Young People's Partnership has developed its first Children and Young People's Plan in accordance with the requirements of the Children Act 2004. Formal consultation on the plan took place during the period 7th April to 30th June 2008 and included all stakeholders and extensive consultation with children, young people and their families. The Children & Young People's Plan 2008-2011 was then published in November 2008.

The plan is now the main driver of services for children and young people and focuses on developing services to meet the needs of vulnerable children, young people and their families whilst continuing to improve accessibility to and quality of universal services. The plan incorporates WAG's 7 Core Aims and is underpinned by 5 cross cutting themes. These are:

- Identification and support for vulnerable children and young people;
- Integrated early intervention services;
- Enhanced information sharing;
- Improved partnership communication; and
- Joint commissioning.

Lead Partners: Children & Young People's Framework Partnership, Children's Partnership & Young People's Partnership

15. To deliver the vision for Margam Park as the largest classroom in Wales

Substantial work has taken place in order to move forward the vision for Margam. A review of the proposals has been undertaken and has resulted in the construction of the Discovery Centre at the Eastern end of the Park which will provide a range of innovative learning opportunities, Heritage skills training and residential learning for Primary School pupils. The Centre is funded by the European Objective One Programme.

Also, a high ropes course has been constructed in the Park and opened in March 2009 as a result of a partnership with a private sector operator.

Work has also commenced on the development of 3 "Outdoor Classrooms" at the Eastern End of the park which will enable visitors of all ages to learn more about the natural environment

The Farm Trail has been re-vamped and new interpretation panels will be installed during 2009.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC

Health Social Care and Wellbeing

The updated Health Social Care and Wellbeing Strategy (HSCWBS) which covers the period 2008-2011 built upon the foundations of the previous strategy, which was developed in 2004. It aims to:

“Make a real difference to the way people experience services; to the quality of people’s lives and the environment in which people live.” (HSCWB Strategy 2008-2011)

The Strategy is based on a number of principles agreed by all partners:

- Ensure people from disadvantaged groups have the same access to health and social care services as the rest of the population in order to reduce the gap that exists between people who have the worst health and those who are the healthiest.
- Help more people who are disabled, ill or frail to live independently in their own homes or communities.
- Improve the quality, efficiency and sustainability of services by sharing resources.
- Ensure that children and young people have their wishes respected and that they are able to enjoy the best possible physical, mental, social and emotional wellbeing whilst they are growing up.
- Recognition within the partnership that we must be able to meet a growing and diverse range of needs and that difficult decisions sometimes have to be made on how resources are spent. We commit to doing this in partnership with the citizens of Neath Port Talbot.

The Strategy organises the priorities for action under three themes:

- Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of health and social care services.
- Promoting healthier lifestyles.
- Promoting healthier communities.

Leadership and Governance

Responsibility for delivering the HSCWBS is vested in the Health Social Care and Wellbeing Partnership Board (Partnership Board) whose membership comprises the health champions, chairpersons, chief executives and senior executives of partner agencies.

The Partnership Board is supported by two executive groups: the Joint Executive Group (JEG) and Health Challenge Neath Port Talbot (HCNPT). JEG is charged with responsibility for delivering the “Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of health and social care services” theme. HCNPT is charged

with delivering the “Promoting healthier lifestyles; and Promoting healthier communities” themes.

In 2007 a successful bid was made to pilot the new Local Service Board (LSB) model. The LSB has focused its development work on aspects of the HSCWB Strategy and the work was covered by a Local Delivery Agreement (LDA). The LDA has been largely achieved and has served to raise the profile of health and wellbeing across the whole of the Community Plan Partnership. The LSB will continue to monitor critical aspects of the HSCWB Strategy with the main work continuing to be firmly located within the HSCWB Partnership.

Progress on implementing the priorities of the strategy for 2008 – 2009 are outlined in the three thematic headings below:

Theme 1 - Health and Social Care Services – Summary of Key Achievements

During 2008-09 the Partnership has realised the following improvements in health and social care services:

Carers

- A Carers' Handbook, developed by carers has been launched and can be made available in different languages and formats on request.
- The target of 90% of eligible carers being offered a carer's assessment was exceeded, reaching 100% offer rate.
- The Young Carers Forum began work on the Young Carers Action Plan.
- A range of events for carers during carers week 2008 were organised, which included; information sessions, an afternoon of local history, a walk along the Aberafan seafront and an event at Aberafan Beach hotel focusing on the health of carers; at this event carers had the opportunity to access a wide range of health related information and had access to mini health checks.
- The Neath Port Talbot Carers Service worked with Communities First to arrange information and coffee mornings in Community 1st areas and the Carers Action Movement arranged their first evening event for working carers.
- A Carers in Employment event was organised by Crossroads. This event took place at the Corus plant in Port Talbot.
- There has been two training sessions on 'working with carers' for Social Workers.

Older People

- Following the Joint Review of Social Services which confirmed the quality of local services to be excellent, a strategic change management programme to transform older people services (TOPS) has been established.

- A new Home Enabling Assessment Team (HEAT) has been launched. The new team provides intensive support to all older people newly referred to social services with the aim of helping people regain skills and therefore increasing their independence and quality of life.
- Community and Residential Re-ablement services continue to operate to full capacity and work will be progressed to develop a Section 33 agreement within this financial year.
- Work to progress the implementation of the National Service Framework for Older People, continues to make good progress. The latest WAG progress report for the implementation of the standards indicated that the overall average score is for NPT is 5.3. The scores for implementing the NSF standards have continued to increase year on year since March 2007 when the score was 4.8.
- A section 33 agreement has been established for a joint equipment service across the ABM University NHS Trust area to improve the efficiency of service access.
- Areas that have been identified as requiring further progress include; continence assessment and management in care settings with the development of an integrated continence service. Significant progress is being made in these areas.

Mental Health

- A strategy to reduce self-harm and suicide has been produced and is being implemented across the ABMU NHS Trust area.
- A successful lottery bid to improve knowledge and understanding of self harming and suicidal behaviour is being used to procure specialist training for statutory and third sector workers and volunteers.
- A self-referral system for citizens to access primary care support for services such as; computerised cognitive behavioural therapy, stresspac and bibliotherapy has been achieved.
- Service delivery models have been re-designed to better meet the needs of people in the community such as; gateway workers linked to GP services, crisis resolution and home treatment and assertive outreach.
- Further work will continue to repatriate people who need support with their mental health to live independently, back into the ABMU NHS Trust and county borough area.
- A full mapping exercise to scope support services across the ABMU NHS Trust area is about to commence, which will help to identify gaps and health inequalities and will inform future service delivery.
- The development of an action plan to consider the integration of services to address the needs of older people with dementia and other mental health needs is being progressed.
- Management and coordination of the NSF for mental health is achieved through an integrated local implementation group (LIT).

Learning Disabilities

- A successful convergence fund coastal bid across 4 local authority areas to widen options for day activity for people with learning disabilities has been successful.
- Scoping work has commenced to identify and commission support to address the needs of 55 young people with complex health needs aged 14 – 18 who are likely to require adult service provision in next five years.
- Supported accommodation options for people currently being cared for by older carers are being considered.
- Work is continuing to identify and commission appropriate respite care provision.
- Work has commenced to move towards the full integration of the operational management, assessment practice and information sharing within the joint Community Support Service.
- Significant interagency work is being progressed to manage the ongoing increasing and complex needs of people meeting continuing NHS health care needs criteria.
- The support needs of people with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) are being considered by a joint children and adult services interagency group. This work is being led by the Children and Young Peoples Partnership.

Physical and Sensory Disabilities

- A strategy for physically disabled people and those with sensory support needs aged 18 to 64 years has been developed with the lead from Social Services, Health and Housing.
- The strategy has been approved for consultation through the HSCWB Partnership.
- A 10 week consultation period with wider council directorates, local NHS services, voluntary sector and the public has commenced and will run up to the 7 August 2009.
- The strategy will be widely distributed to groups and individuals who will be asked to complete a questionnaire. The questionnaire will be available in different formats on request.
- There will be visits to established service user and voluntary sector group meetings to seek a wider range of views.
- During the 10 week consultation period a detailed implementation plan will be developed to take forward the strategy.
- This plan will be based on the 'what we need to do' within the document and will identify funding sources and lead officers who will take forward the developments.
- An ILF Coordinator was employed in August 2008 and during the first six months of appointment there was an increase of 20 ILF packages secured. The comparative figures for 2007 – 2008 (uptake

£285,099.84) and 2008 – 2009 (£381,304.09) are an indicator of the success of the initiative.

- The numbers of people receiving Direct Payments as of 31 March 2009 was 134. Of these; 27 were people over the age of 65 years; 38 were younger adults with physical or sensory disability; 46 had a learning disability; 20 were parents of or had parental responsibility for children with a disability and 3 were adult carers.

Children and Young People

- A review has been completed on the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people with a particular emphasis on vulnerable children and the services available to them. The information gathered will help to implement the Reduction of Self Harm and Suicide Strategy and will assist the re-commissioning of existing emotional health and wellbeing services.
- The improvement of multi-agency transition services for disabled children are being progressed with a review of existing speech and language therapy services with the aim of developing a coordinated service that meets the needs of eligible children.
- The needs of children and young people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) are being considered through an interagency planning group linking into Adult Social Care Services.
- An integrated multi agency approach to the development of maternity and ante-natal services for groups vulnerable to substance misuse is a priority for the CYP.
- The modernisation of health visiting within an integrated early years service is being considered.
- Health improvement initiatives such as; commissioning a model for sexual health services; improving nutrition and physical activity; reducing alcohol, substance misuse and smoking are currently a medium priority for the CYP as significant work is already being progressed through the HSCWB Partnership SHIPS, who have the lead for these initiatives.
- A Review of Family Support Services was launched in February 2009, which aims to re-design the delivery of support services so that they are targeted at children & families in greatest need.
- This review is scheduled for completion by March 2010. The impact of the re-design of services will not impact immediately but may be seen to reduce the number of Looked After Children over a period of years following 2010.
- Children and Young People Services will be responding to the outcomes of the recent set of safeguarding inspections across Wales and implementing responses to these recommendations locally in Neath Port Talbot.

Substance Misuse

- Work continues on implementing WAG's Substance Misuse Treatment Framework as well as acknowledging the importance between balancing the treatment and prevention agenda.
- A service review is currently being undertaken by external consultants. The review will enable planners to identify the gaps in service provision and consider the services that need to be commissioned.
- The review has significantly engaged service users and other key stakeholders.
- Two draft reports have been prepared and recently went through the local SMAT for further refinement.
- The final report will be made available later in the year and will act as a driver for the commissioning of services in the next financial year and beyond.
- The Substance Misuse Action Team (SMAT) continues to work closely with the CYP Partnership to identify projects to support families affected by alcohol and substance misuse.
- Consideration is being given to improving the planning links between mental health services and alcohol and substance misuse services.

NHS Community and Primary Care Services

The restructure of the NHS in Wales will bring together the Local Health Boards of Neath Port Talbot, Bridgend and Swansea with the ABMU NHS Trust, which provides services to these boroughs and currently the Western Vale of Glamorgan. The new ABM University NHS Local Health Board (ABMU LHB) will exist in shadow format from 1 June 2009. During 2008-09 the LHB and Community Services has realised the following improvements in health and social care services (NB* Also see previous sections on core services to vulnerable groups where NHS Community and Primary Care Services have had a significant input):

- Specialist enhanced services through GP surgeries continue to be developed to ensure that vulnerable people can access support for chronic conditions locally.
- An LHB led joint project with a local GP, Communities First and a group of local citizens has considered and redesigned how primary care and health improvement services can be delivered in a valleys community where service access would be compromised if the services were to transfer to another community.
- Progress has been made to continue to improve the number of children having the MMR vaccine.
- The system for monitoring and tackling Delayed Transfers of Care (DToC) has been reviewed and strengthened. A Choice of Accommodation policy has been developed and is being implemented across the ABMU NHS Trust area to help address delays relating to nursing and residential care home access.

- A pilot lifestyle coaching scheme through two GP practices to improve lifestyle choices for people vulnerable to chronic disease has been launched and will be formally evaluated by a local academic institution.
- A research assistant was commissioned to complete a piece of work to develop a local community resource directory for citizens to directly access support with their health and wellbeing. The directory is available to the public through the NHS Direct and Health Challenge Neath Port Talbot websites.
- The proposal for a Community Integrated Intermediate Care Service (CIIS) has been accepted by WAG for funding from January 2009. A recruitment process is currently underway. The service will help to manage the needs of people with chronic conditions in the community more efficiently and effectively and will reduce the duplication and barriers between primary and secondary care.

Theme 2 – Promoting Healthier Lifestyles – Summary of Key Achievements

The Strategic Health Improvement Plans, created under the initial strategy have been implemented with the following achievements for 2008 – 2009:

Nutrition:

- The Mind Exercise Nutrition Do it (MEND) Program has been successfully piloted and is now being rolled out to all comprehensive schools across the county borough.
- School Nutrition Action Groups (SNAG) are being developed in all comprehensive schools.
- A working party for adventure in foodlands resource has been piloted and will be incorporated into all foundation phase curriculum.
- 10 OCN level 2 courses in Nutrition were run for 40 community workers across the partnership.

Physical Activity:

- WAG funding for a lifestyle coaching project in two GP practices within the county borough has been secured and appointments have been made. The pilot will target patients 50+ with musculoskeletal conditions and will be formally evaluated.
- The national 5 x 30 minutes of moderate intensity activity initiative has been implemented into every comprehensive school across the county borough.
- The range of physical activity options for all age groups who are sedentary has been significantly widened. Projects have included; the appointment of a walking coordinator, four separate walking groups have been established, 20 leaders have been trained, walking

information is available on websites and through leaflets distributed around the county borough,

- The continuing development of wider neighbourhood interventions have included; danzasise classes, twilight soccer, dodgeball, family fit club; outdoor adventure trail in the Afan Valley, junior circuit training, junior boxercise, junior rugby skills, youth basket ball, mixed adult tag rugby, tea dances and occupational health community fit club.
- Seven new fitness instructors have been trained to deliver door step fitness opportunities.
- P.A.C.E Exercise Referral Scheme has shown an average of 35 referrals a month with all sessions operating at 100% capacity with 52 referrals coming from NHS professionals.

Smoking:

- Over 1600 young people in year 7 of their education attended a dramatic performance (delivered by young actors) focused on stopping children and young people starting to smoke. The performances were delivered on and around National No Smoking Day and were followed through by a number of secondary schools back in the classroom. The initiative is currently being evaluated.
- Priority on enforcing the ban on smoking in public places was maintained. High levels of compliance continue to be observed, although there is a need to increase awareness of the applicability of the ban to workplace vehicles which fall within the legislation.
- The programme of test purchasing and proxy test purchasing of cigarettes, alcohol, knives and fireworks was strengthened through successful bids for additional resources, helping to stifle the supply of these products to children and young people.
- A pre surgery smoking cessation service has been launched.

Reduction of Infection:

- Activities to encourage uptake of vaccination to prevent disease has increased with a recent focus on the uptake of MMR vaccine as uptake has slowed nationally.
- The Relationship Advice Drop-in Service (RADS) a supported sexual health service for young people has been extended with two additional sessions being available.
- An integrated sexual health plan has been developed and has gone out to consultation.
- A hand washing programme in primary schools was delivered by the Environmental Health Service of the Council, helping children to appreciate the importance of hygiene to preventing the spread of infection.

Emotional wellbeing:

- A task and finish group has been set up to consider the development of an emotional wellbeing strategic health improvement plan.
- Further work to consider the wider determinants of health influencing emotional wellbeing such as the impact of recession, unemployment and environmental factors as well as the work commissioned by the CYP Partnership will be carried out to consider how preventative support can be established.

Theme 3 – Promoting Stronger Communities – Summary of Key Achievements

Wider Determinants of Health

- A Neath Port Talbot Local Housing Strategy for 2007 – 2012 has been developed and incorporates information on; the local housing market, service access, affordable housing, the needs of black and ethnic minority groups and gypsy travellers, social and private sector provision, sustainable development, support for vulnerable groups, housing stock management and repairs, energy efficiency and regeneration.
- A Supporting People Operational Plan (SPOP) has been developed to ensure that vulnerable people can access support with their tenancies and independent living. The progress to date has included; the development of a new tariff and bench-marked funding system for implementation in the next financial year, a review of the fairer charging policy, evidence-based tender for cost effective floating support, a number of tenants supported through the tenancy support scheme, which helped to prevent homelessness, reduce rent arrears and evictions.
- A Homelessness 5 year plan has been produced by the council and a health partnership legacy statement has been prepared and forwarded to the WAG on local work carried out to improve housing and NHS service access for homeless vulnerable groups.
- The Environment Strategy was strengthened following consultation to make more specific reference to the health improvements the strategy seeks to bring about.
- The Older Persons Strategy was strengthened to embed health improvement into that plan.
- Partners have committed to developing health and wellbeing in their own workplaces, using the corporate health standard and routes to health improvement.
- Work was commissioned, using funding provided by the LSB, to engage private sector businesses in the work of the Partnership.
- A Health and Wellbeing centre was launched in Ystalyfera led by NPT CVS.

- Concrete links to the Local Development Plan were made, with agreement between the Environment Directorate and HCNPT to run a joint conference planned for in June 2009 with high profile key note speakers to consider what a healthy sustainable community should look like.
- A high profile recognition event was held in November 2008 to recognise the contribution of carers. The event was extremely well supported by partners and a range of local organisations. Twelve categories of award generated thirteen award winners and attracted considerable local interest.
- An expression of interest was submitted to WEFO with the aim of securing Convergence Funding to support the development of the workforce, particularly in the small and medium sized private and voluntary sector organisations locally.

Overall Progress Report:

Although good progress has continued to implement the HSCWB strategy through 2008 to 2009, improving the health and wellbeing of the population and the delivery of high quality cost effective services for vulnerable people, continues to be the top priority for the HSCWB Partnership.

The remainder of this annual report summarises the progress made in 2008/9 for the first year of the revised strategy.

The selection of health and wellbeing as a focus for the Local Service Board has kept health improvement at the top of the local partnership agenda. The Health Social Care and Wellbeing Partnership itself has been strengthened and extended and there is a renewed impetus to engage local people in enjoying healthier lives.

Good progress has also been made in linking the objectives of the Health Social Care and Wellbeing Strategy across the wider Community Plan partnership. There has been excellent co-ordination of work on children and young people's health which is now reflected in the Children and Young People Plan; the Environment Strategy makes explicit links to health improvement, and there is a continuing health improvement theme in the Western Valleys Strategy. The Older People Strategy embeds health and wellbeing into its work plans as does the Physical and Sensory Disability Strategy, which is currently out for consultation.

Health Improvement and Support for Healthier Lifestyles

Excellent work continues to be undertaken by partners to implement Strategic Health Improvement Plans aimed at; reducing smoking, increasing physical activity, encouraging healthier diets and reducing infection.

A new HSCWB Partnership Manager and Health Improvement Coordinator have been appointed in recent months and are in the process of reviewing the outcomes from the SHIPS and JEG for the last 12 months and are helping to identify the priorities for JEG and HCNPT for further project development for the next 12 months to 2 years. This work will compliment the wider health determinants and health inequalities work through Health Challenge Neath Port Talbot and the service development and delivery work being progressed through the Joint Executive Group.

A Business Campaign is being progressed using grant monies available to the Local Service Board to sell the business case for healthy workplaces. A survey has been carried out with local businesses to gauge interest; a business health website is being developed and a package to improve health in the workplace is being progressed. There will be an official launch of the campaign in September 2009. As well as engaging a wide range of businesses in the work of the partnership, the campaign will make the Health Challenge Neath Port Talbot brand more visible across the county borough.

Monitoring Report

1. Increase the proportion of Council properties achieving the Welsh Housing Quality Standard

The Council is working towards its properties achieving the WHQS. The capital programme aims to improve housing conditions, for example, general external repairs and internal refurbishment. Whilst recognising the importance of good quality housing on the health and well being of the population the Council is committed to working towards the standard but has to do so within finite resources.

Last September, the Council accepted that stock retention was not a sustainable option and that it would consult with its tenants and ballot them on the option to transfer.

Lead Partner: NPT CBC Housing Services

2. Increase the proportion of unfit dwellings made fit or demolished by the County Borough Council

It is not possible to represent performance numerically but it remains vital that a commentary of some of the major actions to improve housing conditions is included in this report.

Progress is being made towards this target but due to the necessity of prioritising grant funding to mandatory disabled facilities grants it is not possible to make major inroads into unfitness as defined. The targeting of limited resources is ensuring that a proportion of properties do not fall into unfitness. We continue to work to improve conditions in the private sector, for example in 2008-2009 the following activity was undertaken:

Grants, advice or assistance:

- 246 no. Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant projects completed,
- 85 no. Council house adaptations completed,
- 52 no. Emergency Repair projects completed,
- 89 no. Minor Repairs assistance projects completed,
- 118 no. Rapid response projects completed funded by LA monies
- 589 no Rapid response projects completed with other funding

Lead Partner: NPT CBC Housing Services

3. Reduce the rate of homelessness presentations

The following indicators form part of the new policy agreement held between the Council and the WAG:

(a) The number of homeless families with children who have used bed and breakfast accommodation during the year, except in emergencies;

(b) The average number of days all homeless households spend in temporary accommodation.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
a)	n/a	31	15	16	6	6	6	3
b)	44	116.31	72	112.31	100	85.73	90	70.36

- Good practice suggests that homeless households should spend as little time as possible in temporary accommodation. During 2008/09 the service reduced this time from an average of 85.73 to an average of 70.36 days.
- There is recognition at a national level that homeless people are likely to have poor health, yet it is known that they face significant inequalities in accessing health services. Local Health Boards across Wales were given the partnership lead to consider ways to improve service access for people who are homeless or vulnerable to homelessness.

- The LHB coordinated the work to develop a Homelessness and Vulnerable Groups Health Action Plan (HaVGHAP), which included a large interagency stakeholder conference across Neath Port Talbot, Bridgend and Swansea.
- A legacy statement for the LHB to implement the new standards in the next year has been prepared and forwarded to WAG. The new standards for 2009 -2010 will include local HSCWB Partnerships having to evidence; information sharing across the LHB and Council to monitor homeless people; tracking on interagency signposting to services with specific emphasis on GP services and evidence to show an interagency whole systems approach to the management homelessness and health.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC Housing Services and ABMU LHB

4. Reduce the proportion of the population who are fuel poor

Please see target 19 in the Environment theme.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC Housing Services

5. Reduce the prevalence of obesity

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (2003/04)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
56% overweight or obese	-	56%	55%	56%	55%	60%	56% All Wales level	unavailable

The findings of the 2008 Welsh Health Survey have not yet been reported by county (expected in September 2009). However, some key findings from the 2008 Survey have been published, including that across Wales:

- ◆ 57% of adults were classified as overweight or obese, and
- ◆ 33% of children were estimated to be overweight or obese

The trend for adults is one of increasing overweight and obesity. Moreover, the Survey also indicates that there has been little change in physical activity levels over recent years. It is too early to comment on the trend for children as only two years of data is available on this.

Reducing overweight and obesity has continued to be a high priority for Health Challenge Neath Port Talbot. Local effort has been maintained to support activities in local communities to improve diet and increase levels of physical activity. New initiatives have included Community Food and Nutrition

Skills Courses for local community workers to enable them to give accurate healthy eating messages to the wider population, particularly school age children and young people; Confidence to Cook, Get Cooking and other cooking skills classes in local communities; the promotion of local food co-operatives and gardening projects in schools. Significant work has continued to progress in schools with implementation of Appetite for Life and Food and Fitness policies to improve food in schools; and the Healthy Options Award Scheme has continued to award local catering establishments for providing healthy food choices and healthy catering practices.

Lead Partner: Local Public Health Team

6. Ensure all communities have access to fresh fruit and vegetables

The findings of the 2008 Welsh Health Survey have not yet been reported by county (expected in September 2009).

As reported in previous updates the mapping of available food, including fresh fruit and vegetables, within 500 metres of community residential areas across Neath Port Talbot demonstrated that access and availability are not problems locally.

The number of food co-operatives has continued to grow and further work has been undertaken by the Public Health Team and Communities First in educating people to eat healthily. The Welsh Health Survey indicates that 42% of adults in Neath Port Talbot report eating five or more portions of fruit and vegetables a day compared to a low of 37% in some parts of Wales and a high of 44% in others.

The Nutrition Strategic Health Improvement Plan has recently been updated as the HSCWB Partnership are reviewing their priorities. Activity for the last twelve months and current work is mainly centred on the Healthy Schools Initiative and includes; rolling out the MEND (Mind Exercise Nutrition Do It) programme; continued implementation of the Appetite for Life Programme and ABM University NHS Trust dieticians training up community workers to ONC level 2 in nutrition.

Lead Partner: Local Public Health Team

7. Increase the proportion of adults who exercise sufficiently to satisfy the British Medical Association recommendation of five 30 minute periods of moderate intensity physical activity per week.

The findings of the 2008 Welsh Health Survey have not yet been reported by county (expected in September 2009).

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (2003/04)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
26%	26%		27%	26%	28%	27%	29%	unavailable

The 2005/07 Welsh Health Survey – which combines data from 2005/06 and 2006/07 - suggests a 1% increase over the three year period in adults who participate in regular physical activity in Neath Port Talbot. However, this remains the lowest level in Wales (comparable with Rhondda Cynon Taf and Caerphilly). The Welsh average is 30%; and the highest levels (36%) are reported in Wrexham and Gwynedd.

The Sport and Active Living Strategy and the Physical Activity and Health Action Plan continue to provide the partnership framework for engaging people in all types of activity. These plans have been further strengthened in 2008 through a local agreement with the Sports Council for Wales.

The Physical Activity Strategic Health Improvement Plan has been reviewed recently and continuous progress is being made to improve the amount and range of physical activity for adults. In terms of the national target of 5 x 30 minutes of exercise a day – a 5 x 30 Officer was appointed in January 2009 and has been deployed to Port Talbot College. The Officer also attends the monthly PASS meetings and regular meetings with the 5 x 30 Officers established within Neath Schools.

Lead Partner: Local Public Health Team

8. Reduce the percentage of the adult population who undertake no healthy physical activity

The findings of the 2008 Welsh Health Survey have not yet been reported by county (expected in September 2009).

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (2002/03)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
60%	61%	79%	60%	79%	59%		58%	N/A

The data collected for the above Target is referenced to the Sports Council for Wales's (SCW) survey of Adults (15+ yrs). This survey was carried out on a biennial basis (ie: 2002/2003 and 2004/2005) but has not been carried out for the period 2006/2007 rather this is being carried out for 2008/2009. In addition, the 2008/2009 survey will not report the above data set (i.e.: adult physical activity levels and inactivity levels).

SCW have suggested that the Welsh Health Survey (last survey conducted in 2005/2007) should now be used as the primary source of data in relation to

Adult Physical Activity. However, both Surveys collect their data in different ways so comparison between the two is not recommended.

The Welsh Health Survey 2005/2007 indicates that 63% of adults in Neath Port Talbot do not reach the 5 x 30 target but it does not record the no healthy physical activity percentage. This represents the joint lowest figure in Wales.

The Sport and Active Living Strategy and the Physical Activity and Health Action Plan continue to provide the partnership framework for engaging people in all types of activity. These plans have been further strengthened in 2008 through the Local Authority Partnership Agreement with the Sports Council for Wales.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC Leisure Services

9. Reduce the teenage conception rate

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is the NPHS source of data on conceptions. Final data are available on teenage conceptions for under 18's and under 16's for 2006 only. The data show an increase in conceptions for young people under 18 and under 16. The conception rate for young women aged 13-15 in 2005 was the second highest in Wales.

Under 18 conception rates for NPT				
Years	Neath Port Talbot			Wales
	Number	Rate (per 1000)	Rank in Wales by borough	Rate (per 1000)
2001	118	43.8	12	45.5
2002	118	43.8	10	45.9
2003	152	56.2	3	45.7
2004	118	44.2	11	45.1
2005	125	46.2	13	43.6
2006	126	46.6	13	44.9

Under 16 conception rates for NPT				
Years	Neath Port Talbot			Wales
	Number	Rate (per 1000)	Rank in Wales by borough	Rate (per 1000)
1998-00	78	9.7	15	9.7
2001-03	77	9.6	18	8.4
2002-04	67	8.4	14	8.0
2005	27	10.3	21	7.9
2006	30	11.4	18	8.6

Lead Partner: Local Public Health Team

10. Increase the number of people diagnosed with coronary heart disease who have been offered programmes of care

People on the coronary heart disease (CHD) registers in GP practices are now routinely offered an appropriate programme of care. Performance on this target is now, therefore, 100%. However, information has been provided below about the percentage of people within GP practice populations identified with CHD. While an increase in this figure is anticipated with higher levels of identification, the percentage offered a programme of care should nevertheless continue to be 100%.

Baseline (2004/5)	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
4.61% of practice population	4.73%	4.76%	4.85%	4.64%	4.97%	4.70%	5.09%	4.47%

A lot of work has been undertaken in Neath Port Talbot to raise awareness of CHD and to maintain accurate registers in primary care.

Lead Partner: ABMU LHB

11. Increase the proportion of the population aged 16+ who are non-smokers

The findings of the 2008 Welsh Health Survey have not yet been reported by county (expected in September 2009).

The Welsh Health Survey 2005/07 reports that 25% of the population smoke. In Neath Port Talbot the percentage is slightly higher with 26% of men and women aged 16 and over reporting that they smoke daily or occasionally. This is a reported 3% reduction in the 2003/05 survey.

The Tobacco SHIP has continued to work to stop children and young people from starting to smoke. In March 2009 a local theatre company was commissioned to deliver hard hitting scenarios on how smoking can damage, health, relationships, finance, image and ultimately lead to premature death or chronic ill health. All year 7 students were targeted across the county borough to attend and the event, which eventually attracted over 1600 students.

Lead Partner: Local Public Health Team

12. Increase the number of smokers accessing smoking cessation services

Stop Smoking Wales (SSW) is actively involved in the delivery of the Community Strategy Action Plan through Neath Port Talbot Tobacco SHIP, primarily in the following action:

Stop Smoking Wales is a specialist health service that provides intensive behavioural support programmes for adult smokers who want help to give up smoking. Currently SSW offers support in 13 venues across the borough ranging from primary care centres, community venues and local hospital. The need for more support has resulted in the opening of 3 additional venues over the last 3 months.

Over the last 6 months, the Service has seen significant change in terms of service development and new projects with the aim of increasing the number of smokers accessing SSW.

- The appointment of a part-time Health Promotion Practitioner for SSW for Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend
- The implementation of Level II Enhanced Pharmacy Scheme for Nicotine Replacement Therapy
- The development of a Maternity Pilot Project in Neath Port Talbot to continue to support pregnant women who smoke, partners and families.
- Accredited Open College Network (OCN) and awaiting Royal College of Nursing (RCN) accreditation for Brief Intervention aimed at a wide range of clinical and community practitioners, to enable workers to use the 3As brief intervention model (Ask, Advise, Assist) and make effective referrals to Stop Smoking Wales. Two training sessions to run in July/Aug 09 and Jan 10.
- Pre-Operative Smoking Cessation - SSW continues to work in partnership with NHS Trusts to promote pre-operative smoking cessation and support patients waiting for elective surgery to quit smoking prior to their operation. The service is working to integrate the referral mechanism throughout all appropriate services and departments of NHS Trusts, and is delivering training in order to empower staff to deliver effective brief intervention and refer patients to SSW.
- Primary Care– As Primary Care are the highest referrers, the Service is looking to increase referrals further by identifying training needs of health professionals to link in the accredited training to increase referrals pathways from identified areas in the borough.
- Additional development work around Adolescent Cessation and Mental Health and Smoking is currently being explored and will be the next area SSW will be looking to develop further.

Lead Partner: All Wales Smoking Cessation Service and Local Public Health Team

13. All schools have Healthy School Status by 2010

The number of schools that have achieved Healthy Schools status (i.e. completed at least one phase on the Healthy Schools Scheme) is 85. All 86 schools in the authority have been actively involved in the scheme and the plan was that all of them would have achieved Healthy Schools status by June 2009. However, one school was unable to go through the accreditation process due to staff changes mid-way through the year and the school was advised to defer accreditation. The recruitment of three Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) has been achieved within timescale. These three PRUs will also be joining the Healthy Schools Scheme in the new academic year. The projection for June (2010) is that all 86 schools and the 3 PRUs will have achieved Healthy Schools status by that time. These figures continue to be ahead of the targets outlined by WAG which states that all LEA maintained schools are involved in the Healthy Schools Scheme by March 2010.

Baseline (2004/5)	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
28	-	37	60	78	-	80	86 (+3)	85

Lead Partner: Local Public Health Team

14. Increase the proportion of children who have received an MMR vaccination by the age of two

Baseline (2003)	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
72.1%	81%	73.3%	83%	81%	85%	84.5%	95%	84%

Unfortunately by mid-2008 progress in uptake of the MMR vaccine had slowed. Overall for 2008/09 the proportion of children who have received an MMR vaccine by the age of two has been maintained at the 2007/08 level.

Activities to address gaps in education and knowledge have continued through 2008/09, and the current spread of measles in Wales has highlighted the importance of parents ensuring a complete uptake of all childhood vaccination programmes to prevent onward spread of measles, mumps and rubella (and other diseases, including tetanus, diphtheria and polio, which, although rare, still exist in this country, and are more frequently found in travel destinations).

Progress towards the 95% target is necessary to prevent the spread of measles, mumps and rubella. The uptake of complete vaccination against MMR at school entry (by 5th birthday) was 77%, leaving a large number of children vulnerable to serious preventable diseases. As a consequence of the

measles outbreak all parents across Neath Port Talbot have been sent a letter strongly recommending MMR vaccination. It is hoped that this will increase uptake to the target level.

Lead Partner: Local Public Health Team

15. Increase the proportion of woman who attend for breast and cervical screening

There are two key measures for Breast screening:

- Coverage - the proportion of eligible women in the population who are screened in a given time period and
- Uptake - the proportion of invited women who attend their screening appointment in a given time period.

Coverage - the most recent figures available cover the period October 2005 - September 2006 when coverage was 80.5%, the second highest coverage in Wales; the Welsh average is 74.1% and the national standard set by the NHS is 70%.

Uptake - the figure includes all eligible women invited during a three year period who attend for screening. The target for 2007-08 was 80% attendance (with a minimum standard of 70%). The actual for all Wales was 72.8%. In 2006 the age at which women are invited for screening was increased to 70 years.

Cervical screening is measured in terms of coverage because women present themselves as opposed to being invited. The Cervical Screening Information Team Wales calculate coverage as a proportion of women aged 20-64 who have been screened in the last three or five years. Owing to changes in recording the coverage figures are not comparable to previous years. The figures for the period 2007/2008 show that the percentage of target women tested in the last three and five years is slightly above the Wales average in Neath Port Talbot; 64.6% of women have been tested within the last three years (Wales 63.2%) and 75.9% of women were tested in the last five years (Wales 74.2%). This is a slight fall in coverage in NPT and Wales.

Lead Partner: Local Public Health Team

16. Increase the proportion of people aged under 65 helped to live at home

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (3/2005)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
14.35	14.2	14.67	14.5	17.6	14.9	16.28	15.2	unavailable

More people under the age of 65 are being helped to live at home than in previous years. A number of key developments have been central in driving this forward and include the increased capacity of specialist accommodation with the use of assistive technology for people with a learning disability. The development of a joint out of hours service and dedicated website for people experiencing mental health problems, and schemes such as the Expert Patient Programme have had a direct impact on achieving the above target. The increased use of Direct Payments has also contributed and is expected to continue to do so in future years. The strategy for physical and sensory disability, currently out for consultation will influence the way that services are commissioned and delivered in the future with a continued and increasing emphasis on new models of service that support independence.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC Social Services, Health & Housing Directorate

17. Increase the proportion of people aged over 65 helped to live at home

Baseline (3/2005)	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
90.38	90	88	91.8	111.41	118	104.75	95*	93.88

***target revisited due to changes in indicators definition and changes to SSH&H eligibility criteria**

More people over the age of 65 are helped to live at home than in previous years. This good performance recognised in the Joint Review, can be attributed to a number of areas including reablement services, the emergency response service, improved contact and access in social care and primary care, the new HEAT Team and more responsive community services. In addition the increased capacity in domiciliary care services including extra care housing has impacted positively.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC Social Services, Health & Housing Directorate

18. All people identified with chronic disease to be offered information and support

(NB *The update information for the 2008/9 will be available in August 2009).

The only source of data regarding most chronic conditions is GP computer systems. The best data relates to those chronic conditions included in the General Medical Services Contract. As previously mentioned work has been undertaken during 2006/2007 to improve the accuracy of disease registers in Neath Port Talbot. Data identifying the prevalence of conditions is taken from the Quality and Outcomes Framework monitoring tool as at 1st April 2007 and 2008, shown in the table below.

Condition	Prevalence	
	2007	2008
Coronary Heart Disease	4.64%	4.3%
Hypertension	15.52%	14.9%
Diabetes	5.13%	4.5%
Stroke/TIA	2.27%	2.0%
Asthma	7.76%	6.4%
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)	2.26%	2.0%
Cancer	0.84%	1.1%
Epilepsy	0.87%	0.7%

Lead Partner: ABMU LHB

19. Target services to support children and families in greatest need of expertise to reduce the number of children becoming looked after by the County Borough Council

Baseline (3/2005)	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
a) 229	229	256	218	227	208	279	198	326
b) 16841.4	16841.4	17004	15999.4	12582	15199.4	12820.11	14439.4	Deleted for 08/09
c) 21.62%	21.62%	21.75%	20.54%	23.35%	19.51%	20.58%	18.53%	25.3%

The data reported in the table below relates to the following three aspects of this target:

- a) the total number of children looked after;
- b) the total number of weeks in care; and
- c) the percentage of children looked after as a proportion of all children on an open social services caseload.

Following 2 external reviews, strategies have been put into place to combat the issues surrounding the rising numbers of Looked After Children. These strategies include a 'spend to save' fostering strategy which aims to increase the numbers of in-house foster carers and reduce the reliance on external providers. Also, a commissioning strategy has been developed which is focussing on priorities for preventative services and interventions.

A Review of Family Support Services was launched in February 2009, which aims to re-design the delivery of support services so that they are targeted at children & families in greatest need.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC Social Services, Health & Housing Directorate

20. Ensure that all clients can access an appropriate member of the primary care team within 24 hours of requesting an appointment

All 23 GP practices in the Neath Port Talbot area are signed up to the GMS Contract Quality and Outcomes Framework, one element of which measures whether or not they meet minimum standards for 24 hour access for patients. For 2008/9, an external patient survey to measure against this indicator was carried out by MORI and the results have recently been received. 100% of Neath Port Talbot practices met the minimum target measure for 24 hour patient access.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (4/2005)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
90%	100%	95%	100%	100%	100%	91%	100%	100%

Lead Partner: ABMU LHB

21. Reduce waiting times for key specialists to a maximum of 12 months in line with WAG Targets

Waiting times have drastically changed since the 12 month target in 2005/06 and are now measured in weeks as apposed to months. As at the 31st March 2009 the target was that no patient should wait over 10 weeks for a new outpatient appointment or over 14 weeks for inpatient/ daycase treatment. No Neath Port Talbot resident waited longer than 10 weeks for an outpatient appointment however due to pressures in Cardiff & Vale NHS Trust a number of patients waited over 14 weeks for inpatient/ daycase treatment for orthopaedics. It must be noted that all patients referred to the LHB's main provider Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust were seen and treated within the target dates. The next step will involve a change in the way waiting times are recorded as component waits have been replaced by Referral to Treatment (RTT) targets which means that by December 2009 all patients will have a maximum total wait of 26 weeks from GP referral to treatment including all diagnostics and therapies.

Lead Partner: ABMU LHB

22. Reduce to zero the number of people who experience a delay in the transfer of their care from a hospital bed.

Baseline	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
a) non-mental health (3/2005) 26	22	23	n/a	18			17	21
b) mental health (3/2005) 10	9	5	n/a	7			6	7
c) bed days lost (9/2003) 1809	1085	2029	905	2029			1672	1672

The ABM Strategic Discharge Planning Group has developed an ABM community wide health and social care DToC action plan to reflect the measures required to address constraints in the system affecting the timely transfer of patients. The action plan will provide the focus of the Group throughout 2009/10. In addition, a series of PDSAs have been carried out to assess if providing a focused approach will make a difference to the discharge process. A report of the PDSA carried out for NPT has been produced, which highlights revised working practices and areas of good practice being developed by the Discharge Liaison Nurses and ward staff. Disappointingly, the qualitative outcomes of the PDSA do not appear to be supported by the quantitative outcome in terms of a reduction in delays, even so it is still hoped that the new ways of working will continue. Further work is being progressed to scope a model for short term rehabilitation and step down facilities to support longer term rehabilitation. This work forms part of the review of the community hospital beds across the ABM community. The Choice Policy has been extended to include patients without mental capacity and is currently being implemented across the Trust.

Lead Partner: ABMU LHB

23. Limit the number of emergency admissions to hospital to the level recorded in 2003/04

Baseline 03/04	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
7230 admissions	- 5%	-13%	-10%	+10%	100%		100%	-7%

It is clear from the above table that emergency medical admissions to secondary care have fluctuated over the last four years. As at the end of

2008/09 emergency medical admissions were at its lowest since 2005/06 and were 7% below the baseline. Non Contract Activity (NCA) with English providers continues to increase year on year which would ultimately have an impact on the overall total.

Lead Partner: ABMU LHB

Environment

The Neath Port Talbot Environment Forum was established in April 2004 and one of its key achievements has been the review of the Environment Chapter and targets in the Community Plan. The number of targets has increased from 14 to 36 and their focus has been tightened to achieve more meaningful monitoring. The Neath Port Talbot Environment Forum meets every quarter and has a membership of some 50 groups, experts, businesses and statutory bodies. The Forum creates projects and actions which directly improve the Environment of the County. Much of the underlying work embraces this inclusive approach and, as an example, the Neath Port Talbot Local Biodiversity Forum and its Action Plan are recognised as models at the all-Wales level.

Achievements made against Visions for 2015

The Community Plan sets out in pages 12 and 13 the key elements of its vision for the period 2005-2015 in relation to environmental issues.

This year the Council launched the Rights of Way Improvement Plan, Greenspace Strategy and the Environment Strategy – these documents show the vision for the Environment of Neath Port Talbot and the commitment of the Authority to Environmental Improvement, along with the Community Plan Targets which are reported below.

Schools are being encouraged to improve their environmental impacts through the Eco-schools Award and educate children in environmental care to increase sustainability and provide a better environment for the future this is further promoted in the Valleys strategy which focuses on the school as the heart of the communities in the Valley and promoting education to people of all ages.

Afan Argoed, Margam Park and The Gnoll Visitor Centre provide and promote excellent examples of the natural assets we have in the County and their work will continue to improve and promote the assets to both visitors and citizens.

The Environment Forum have launched a website which can be used by residents, visitors and schools and businesses within the County Borough to understand the local environment and the impacts they have and how they can improve. They have also launched a Green Map of NPT for local people to find green businesses, recycling points and local leisure activities.

Achievements Against Targets

Air pollution monitoring is above target and the Local Authority is working closely with the Environment Agency, WAG and CORUS on issues of air

pollution which are of great importance to everyone in Neath Port Talbot. This year the Air Quality Bad days were under the EU limit.

Aberafan Beach achieved a renewal of Blue Flag status.

The Forestry Commission has been improving the quality of the woodland in NPT and once again have exceeded their targets. Also the regeneration team within the Authority have been working to improve site across the Borough.

We have done well on our overall recycling target this year achieving a combined recycling/composting rate of 32.53%.

Monitoring Report

- 1. Measure air pollution PM10 (dust particles) exceedance levels within the Margam/Taibach Air Quality Management Area, as set out in the 'Airwise' Air Quality Strategy.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
35 days	35	27	35	35	35	31 + 14	35	34

Please note that there are two sets of figures for 2007 calendar year. This is because the monitoring station was moved from Groeswen Hospital to Port Talbot Fire Station.

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate

- 2. Monitor air pollution levels within the Margam/Taibach Air Quality Management Area in accordance with data capture targets.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
90%	90%	89%	90%	90%	90%	54%/43%	90%	92%

Please note that there are two sets of figures for 2007 calendar year. This is because the monitoring station was moved from Groeswen Hospital to Port Talbot Fire Station.

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate

3. **By 2006/07 achieve at least 25% recycling/ composting, with a minimum of 10% composting (with only compost derived from source segregated materials counting) and 10% recycling.**

Then, by 2009/10 achieve at least 40% recycling/composting, with a minimum of 15% composting (with only compost derived from source segregated materials counting) and 15% recycling.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
Combined Recycling and Composting	20	20.11	25	25.18	28	27.6	30	32.53
Recycling Target	12	13.48	15	15.81	18	19.84	20	24.94
Composting target	8	6.63	10	9.37	10	7.76	10	7.59

Overall performance has increased however the composting performance year on year has reduced due to seasonal issues which affect the amount of compostable waste that can be collected.

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate

4. **Establish and increase participation levels by residents in the door to door recycling collections. These will monitored annually.**

A survey to establish participation levels is scheduled for 2009

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate

5. **Reduce the incidence for tonnage of flytipping on private and public land across the county borough and reduce the incidence of flytipping by 5% per annum through statutory enforcement and community engagement.**

Baseline (04/05)	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
-	-	1243	-5% =1181	1151	-5% =1122	1624	-5% =1066	

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate

6. **Maintain and enhance river water quality to achieve 83% of sampled stretches falling within the Very Good Class and 17% in the Good Class.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
63% Very Good 18% Good	83% Very Good 17% Good	Good (this includes Very Good and Good) 82.5%	-	-	-	Good (this includes Very Good and Good) 89.4%	100% good 18% Very Good	

This information includes, for historic reasons, standing water bodies such as canals, which bring down the overall water quality figures.

Lead responsibility: Environment Agency

7. **Achieve and maintain Blue Flag status (or equivalent) for the Aberavon Seafront.**

Blue Flag status for Aberavon was first achieved in May 2008 renewal was achieved in May 2009

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate

8. **Build at least 60% of new housing on previously developed land per annum**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
64%	60%	64%	60%	-	60%	74%	60%	51%

Lead responsibility: NPT Planning Services

9. **Undertake investigations on at least 4 potential contaminated land sites per annum and instigate remediation proceedings on all those found to require them.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
9	4	11	4	13	4	1	4	1

Only 1 site being investigated at present – this is ongoing. This 1 site is taking up the majority of the Contaminated Land budget with other complex funding issues.

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate

- 10. Improve the coverage of flood warning services to 78% of all properties in flood risk areas.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
94%	94%	94%	23%	-	64%	63%	68%	

The Agency has changed its target – the all Wales target is now to: Improve the coverage of flood warning services to 89% of properties in flood risk areas by 2013.

Lead responsibility: Environment Agency

- 11. Prevent all inappropriate development inside floodplains**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
-	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate

- 12. Achieve at least a 50% take up of agri-environment schemes by land area by 2015.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
-	-	20%	-		-		50%	

Data not yet available

Lead responsibility: Countryside Council for Wales

13. Over the Plan period an average of 20 hectares per annum will be converted from conifer plantation to broad leaved woodland/ open space.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
71ha	20ha	86.8ha	20ha	58.3ha	20ha	52.9ha	20ha	62.3ha

Lead responsibility: Forestry Commission

14. Proactively survey for and serve a minimum of 4 new (non-emergency) Tree Preservation Orders per annum.

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate Planning Services

15. Contribute to the regeneration of our communities by undertaking at least 4 new schemes per annum that improve and visually enhance the physical environment

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
4	4	4	4	5	4	4	4	6

GCG Square
 Kenfig Industrial Estate
 Ynysmeudwy roundabout & entrance to local nature reserve
 Briton Ferry roundabout
 Amman Valley Trotting Club and
 Aberavon Seafront

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate

16. Ensure that 2.8 hectares of open space is made available per 1000 population by 2015 (an action plan be produced for consideration by 2007) and that no person lives more than 400 metres walking distance from their nearest area of natural green space.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.8ha per 1000 population	19.4% of the population live in wards where there are 2.8 ha of open space

As part of LDP preparation the Authority is required to assess whether the standards should be amended as part of a new LDP Open Space Strategy. This will include whether 2.8 ha is a relevant target and whether 400 metres is an appropriate distance and how green space should be defined.

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate Planning Services

17. Achieve 5 Local Nature Reserve designations within the County Borough by 2009.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
2	-	2	-	-	-	3	5	3

Pant y Sais Fen
Swansea Canal
Eaglesbush Valley (declared in 2008)

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate Planning Services

18. Reduce carbon emissions that result from the operation of the Council owned buildings by 2% per annum over the next 3 years.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
	-	-	-	-	-	-	12%	-

No reliable data is available to enable an accurate response to the target. This target was set in line with the old WAG policy incentive agreements which expired a number of years ago

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate

19. Reduce housing sector carbon emissions by reducing the number of households in fuel poverty in the county borough by applying energy efficiency measures to 80% of the fuel poor homes by 2009.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
50%	50%	46%	-	72%	-	100%	-	-

This target was established from the 3 year Warm Wales Business plan which expired 07/08.

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate

20. To support the National Assembly of Wales and the UK government in meeting Renewable energy targets of 10% of energy from renewable sources.

The Ffynon Oer windfarm is in operation (21MW capacity). A number of wind-farm proposals have either been submitted by developers as planning applications or are being prepared. A biomass renewable energy power-station (13MW) is under construction at Margam, while a further biomass power-station (350MW) is proposed in Port Talbot Docks.

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate Planning Services

21. Oversee the implementation of at least 40 Green Dragon Environment Management Systems for various small and medium sized businesses and groups by 2009.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
12	8	12	16	27	24	40	32	

Lead responsibility: ARENA Network

22. Organise an environmental conference or festival at least every 2 years within the County Borough.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	1

Event to be held every 2 years
 Achieved: 1
 Climate Change Day 16th May 2008

Lead responsibility: NPTCVS

- 23. Implement at least 15 activities from the Green Office Checklist within local voluntary organisations each year.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
-	15	10	15	10	15	25	15	

Lead responsibility: NPTCVS

- 24. All Neath Port Talbot schools will be part of the Eco-Schools programme.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
28	91	28	91	83	91	85	91	86

27 schools have one Green Flag
 10 schools have two Green Flags
 17 have a Silver award (44 of the schools have a bronze award in total)
 18 have a Bronze award (62 of the schools have a bronze award in total)

Only 5 of total 91 schools in county are unregistered. There are 22 schools who are registered but who have not yet won an award.

Lead responsibility: Keep Wales Tidy: Eco-Schools Officer

- 25. Halt the loss of UK and local Priority Habitats and Species as identified in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
5.25	0	5.87ha	0	12.8ha	0	18.86ha	0	3.07ha

3.07ha of Biodiversity Action Plan habitat lost through granted planning permission including acid grassland/heathland and an area of River habitat.

The lowest area loss recorded to date. Also, linear habitat loss (rivers and streams) was 31.2m.

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate Planning Services

- 26. Achieve 1 example per year of a Local Biodiversity Action Plan habitat restored or managed to a favourable condition.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
-	1	0	1	-	1	1	1	1

Pond and wetland creation has been carried out at Margam Park and will be further developed over the next couple of years to develop the site for visitor access.

Lead responsibility: NPT Environment Directorate Planning Services

- 27. To have 85% of the features of the Sites of Special Scientific Significance (SSSIs) in the county borough in favourable condition or recovering towards favourable condition by 2013.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
-	-	41%	-		-		85%	

The main point with the SSSI condition target is that CCW are unlikely to be able to give annual updates due to the monitoring cycle for SSSI falling every six years. CCW will therefore have one other report update falling within the Community Plan period as things currently stand. The SSSI monitoring schedules are being looked at within CCW.

Lead responsibility: Countryside Council for Wales

- 28. Survey the highway verges of the county borough to bring at least 1 additional hectare per annum of appropriate species-rich hedgerow or grassland into management for conservation.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (04/05)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
1ha	1ha	6.33ha	1ha	16.6ha	1ha	-	1ha	-

Work is underway to extend this scheme to incorporate wider 'biodiversity conservation areas'. Work has been carried out at Giant's Grave, the outcome

of which will be used to inform the formalisation of the scheme through council approval.

Lead responsibility: NPT: Environment Directorate

Transport

Following public consultation between July and September 2008, the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) for South West Wales was submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government in September 2009, after a decision by the Welsh Assembly Government to defer the submission date from March 2009. The deferment was in order to allow opportunity for greater coordination between the RTPs and the National Transport Plan, although public consultation on the latter only began in Summer 2009.

The RTP was developed in partnership with the City and County of Swansea and Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire County Councils, which, together with Neath Port Talbot, form the South West Wales Integrated Transport Consortium (SWWITCH).

Unlike the previous Local Transport Plans, the RTP is a bidding document for Welsh Assembly Government and other, primarily capital, funding. It is therefore both robust and aspirational. In addition to the major committed scheme of Stage 2 of the Port Talbot Peripheral Distributor Road (PDR), the plan sets out, in accordance with WAG guidance, three possible levels of programme for the initial 5 year plan period varying between a "Do minimum programme" totalling £109M and a "Preferred programme" totalling £191M. All include a series of projects in Neath Port Talbot. However, both the Deputy First Minister and Assembly Government officials have repeatedly indicated that, in the light of the overall WAG budget position, there is very little likelihood of additional funding for transport schemes for a number of years. Given that, in addition to PDR Stage 2, there are a number of large road schemes already committed across Wales on which major expenditure will arise in the next few years, this is likely to mean that there will be little funding available for new schemes for several years, so that even the "Do minimum" programme may be difficult to achieve. Discussions are ongoing between local government representatives and Welsh Assembly Government officials on an appropriate mechanism for distributing such funding as is available between the four transport consortia covering Wales.

A further issue highlighted in the Plan is that a number of desirable transport interventions, such as improved bus services or development of the "Smarter Choices" agenda to encourage more sustainable travel choices, require revenue rather than capital funding. The Welsh Assembly Government continues to acknowledge that this is an issue which they need to address.

Regarding developments in Neath Port Talbot, tendering for Stage 2 of the Port Talbot Peripheral Distributor Road, between Port Talbot Industrial Estate and M4 junction 38 at Margam, has been completed and a contractor has been appointed for the Early Contractor Involvement stage. This involves the development of the design, obtaining various necessary approvals, value engineering, risk management and agreement of a final target cost for the

works prior to commencement of construction which, subject to funding decisions by the Welsh Assembly Government, is currently still scheduled for 2010. A Public Inquiry regarding the Compulsory Purchase and Side Roads Orders for the scheme took place between April and June 2009 and the outcome is anticipated in the Autumn.

The bus network in the County Borough was relatively stable throughout 2008/9, other than for some changes in the Swansea Valley in summer 2008. Although there were again no changes to the concessionary travel scheme during the year, the number of passes on issue rose by some 1100, or 3.4%, to 31,100. However this was a significantly smaller increase than in the previous year.

The Quality Bus Partnership between the County Borough Council, the bus operator First and South Wales Police continues in place with the objective of developing and supporting the provision of high quality bus services throughout the County Borough through partnership working.

The "Transport for Communities" scheme became a social enterprise in its own right in 2008/09, as envisaged in the Council's Valleys Strategy, which highlights the need for the development of community enterprises to provide affordable and flexible transport services for valley communities. The new enterprise, which has adopted the name DANSA (an acronym for the five valleys Dulais, Amman, Neath, Swansea and Afan), has replaced Dulais Valley Community Transport, and aims to provide flexible transport solutions to address unmet travel needs across the valley areas.

The development of transport services and facilities as envisaged in the Community Plan continues to underpin active citizenship by enabling people to more easily access facilities and services.

Neath Port Talbot Local Transport Forum

The Local Transport Forum is the partnership body which has developed and monitors the transport theme of the Community Plan. It meets approximately quarterly and its membership includes the following:

Confederation of Passenger Transport Wales	Welsh Assembly Government Regional Office
Arriva Trains Wales	First Great Western
Network Rail	Passenger Focus
Associated British Ports	Sustrans
Neath Port Talbot CVS	Voluntary Sector representatives
South Wales Police	Mid & West Wales Fire Service
Freight Transport Association	Road Haulage Association
Bus Users UK	Jobcentre Plus
South West Wales Economic Forum	West Wales CBI
Neath Chamber of Trade	Port Talbot Chamber of Trade
NPT Taxi Association	Aberafan Shopping Centre
NPT Local Health Board	Bro-Morgannwg NHS Trust
Swansea NHS Trust	National Public Health Service
Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust	First Cymru

Monitoring Report

1. Commence construction of the final stage of the Port Talbot PDR, with completion by 2012.

Funding for design has continued to be provided by the Welsh Assembly Government and, subject to future funding decisions by the Welsh Assembly Government and on the basis of current best information, the commencement of construction continues to be scheduled for 2010, with completion in 2013. A bid for European Convergence Funding has been submitted and, if successful, may allow the timescale for completion to be accelerated.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC

2. Further develop Port Talbot Parkway Station to create a more user friendly facility which will encourage greater use of rail transport and reduce car usage.

A study has been carried out and an interim feasibility report has been produced, in agreement with all relevant partners, which identifies possible development scenarios for the station and adjacent areas. The proposals continue to be dependent on development opportunities in the area which are still under discussion. An Expression of Interest in respect of European Convergence Funding has been submitted to the Welsh European Funding Office, the outcome of which is awaited. Implementation of any work will be dependent on the successful outcome of future funding bids.

Lead Partners: NPTCBC, Welsh Assembly Government Regional Office, Arriva Trains Wales, Network Rail.

4. Increase the tonnage of sea freight moving through Port Talbot deep water harbour by 10%.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (2004/2005)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
8.069M	8.271M	8,433M	8.472M	8.406M	8.674M	8.369M	8.876M	6.721M

The targeted increases in traffic through both the deep water harbour and the docks (see target 5 below) are linked and relate to the development of facilities and an associated increase in capacity, which would lead to a step change in traffic when completed, rather than steady year-on-year increases. They were also predicated on growing world and national trade. The downturn in 2008/09 for the Deep Water Harbour specifically reflects the

downturn in the steel industry, whilst that for the docks reflects the more general economic downturn.

Lead Partner: Associated British Ports.

5. **Increase the tonnage of sea freight moving through Port Talbot docks by 25%.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (2004/2005)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
358.0K	380.5K	363.0K	403.0K	323.8K	425.0K	332.8K	447.5K	295.9K

See the note relating to target 4 above.

Lead Partner: Associated British Ports.

6. **Improve passenger facilities at 50 bus stops, in addition to the 170 already improved, subject to the availability of grant funding.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline (2004/2005)	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
170 Total to date	17	17	11	0	11	8	11	1

Funding was not available to progress this target other than at 1 stop where acute problems relating to blocking of the lay-by by illegally parked cars necessitated that engineering measures be introduced.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC

8. **Provide a further 80 pairs of dropped crossings on footways to facilitate easy road crossing by people with impaired mobility, subject to the availability of funding.**

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
	20	23	20	43	20	16	20	61

122 individual dropped crossings were provided in 2008/9 – 60 pairs and 2 individual ones where pairs needed to be completed. This is a significant increase over previous years because of funding being targeted at this area. The target has therefore been exceeded and needs to be reviewed.

It should be noted that the target relates only to the Council's capital programme. Additional dropped crossings continue to be constructed when footway refurbishment works are done adjacent to junctions. These are funded by the highway maintenance budget.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC

9. Customer care and disability awareness training will have been received by all taxi and bus drivers, school transport escorts and community transport drivers.

In respect of licensed taxi drivers additional licence requirements were implemented in August 2008 whereby they are now subject to a test of basic literacy, numeracy, area knowledge and licence conditions with a view to enhancing their skills. The taxi licence conditions have been reviewed, including training issues, but their publication for consultation has been delayed and is now expected in October/November 2009. The provision of training for licensed taxi drivers via a local college has not materialised due to lack of funding, as a result of which the development of in-house training, possibly in conjunction with the training of escorts and drivers working on special needs school transport, is being investigated. A programme of training courses for drivers and passenger assistants responsible for transporting both mainstream and special needs school pupils is being developed as part of a regional project through SWWITCH. All the driving, supervisory, managerial and engineering staff of the major bus company, First, have received customer care and disability awareness training and continue to do so as roles change and training needs are identified. In September 2008 it became a legal requirement for all bus drivers to hold a Certificate of Professional Competence whereby they must undertake professional competence training each year. Customer care is an integral part of this, together with defensive driving which encourages drivers to be aware of their environment. The SWWITCH Local Authorities are jointly developing a school transport training module which will fit into this ongoing training requirement.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC, bus, taxi and community transport operators.

10. Increase the length of cycle ways by 28 km, to add to the existing 98.2km, thus moving towards completion of the currently identified cycleway network of approximately 126km.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
98.2km	8.5km	2.0km	8.5km	2.5km	8.5km	5.8km	8km	1.4km
Total to date								

A detailed review of cycleways has led to a modification of the above table compared with previous years. However the overall situation remains that funding and other constraints have continued to restrict the construction of new cycleways.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC.

11. Implement 25 more school travel plans, in addition to the 15 already in place, together with associated safe routes to schools projects, secure cycle storage provision or other measures as identified in the Travel Plans.

	2005/2006		2006/2007		2007/2008		2008/2009	
Baseline	T	A	T	A	T	A	T	A
15	7	11	6	10	7	10	6	6
Total to date								

This target was reached ahead of schedule in 2007/8. The Safe Routes to Schools Programme, to which it is closely linked, has been broadened into a Safe Routes in Communities Programme. Both factors indicate a need to review the target.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC.

12. Establish travel plan fora for Baglan Energy Park and Coed Darcy, and implement the travel plans which arise as a result, together with a travel plan for the County Borough Council.

The Coed Darcy forum is well established with members continuing to work with SWWITCH officers on travel plan measures. In particular, work with the newly appointed Regional Environmental Management Advisor is aimed at encouraging more uptake of Travel Plan Measures, focusing on the environmental impact on the site. Effective partnerships continue with transport operators and PTI Cymru, the public transport information service. At Baglan Energy Park a forum has been established as the park has developed and progress is being made on the development and

implementation of travel plans. Travel plan measures for the County Borough Council continue in place, particularly in respect of travel to and from The Quays on Baglan Energy Park. Whilst the level of bus service to the site has reduced in the middle part of the day it now involves a more direct service offering quicker journeys, particularly to Port Talbot.

A successful Travel Planning workshop was held at Neath College in 2008. Work is ongoing with Jobcentre Plus departments to provide continuous training to their clients on how to access information on travel options to improve their chances of finding employment. This work has been successfully carried out with potential employees at the Amazon site where many of those who received training are now car sharing to and from work.

Lead Partner: SWWITCH.

- 13. Increase from 38% to 44% the proportion of the County Borough Council's existing managed car park spaces, which are in car parks with the Park Mark Safer Parking Award (formerly known as "Secured Car Park" status), by bringing all open air car parks to the required standard.**

All the Councils managed surface car parks, together with the Port Talbot multi-storey car park, have now achieved the Park Mark Safer Parking Award, bringing the proportion of managed car park spaces which are subject to the award to 78%. The only managed car park which has not now received the award is Neath multi-storey car park which is anticipated to be part of a major redevelopment in the town in the next few years. Any new or redeveloped facility will be expected to be designed to the Safer Parking Award standards. This target therefore needs to be reviewed.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC.

- 14. Set up a co-ordinated service for shared community, health and social services transport.**

A pilot scheme for cooperation between the Council's Community Services transport fleet and the non-emergency patient transport service ran for the 6 months to June 2008, making use of spare capacity in the use of Council vehicles in off-peak periods. The Ambulance Trust carried out a survey of patients who had used Council-operated transport during the pilot and the preliminary results are very positive. Discussions with the Ambulance Trust regarding a resumption of the cooperative arrangements and their further development are ongoing.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC, Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust, Community Transport Schemes.

Community Safety

The Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership is in the second year of the 2008 – 2011 Community Safety Partnership Plan and continues to make significant progress towards achieving its objectives. This plan is a three year rolling plan which is reviewed and updated on an annual basis. An annual strategic assessment of crime and disorder has been completed which informed the partnership plan of the priorities that have been identified. The Partnership has engaged with the community to ensure the priorities identified reflect the issues that the communities of Neath Port Talbot felt were important.

Within the Executive Group of the Partnership, the joint lead agencies and chairs are the Superintendent of "G" Division and the Chief Executive of the Council. This group is tasked with providing a high level strategic lead to the Partnership. Sitting below this group is the Strategic Group which oversees Community Safety matters, and the Youth Offending Team Management Board. Both groups comprise all relevant partners required to deliver the strategy and all meet quarterly. The Strategic Group has five Action Sub Groups who are responsible for implementing the objectives of the Community Safety Strategy and monitoring the Community Plan targets.

The police and council community safety team each have around 20 staff and many of the workers are co-located in Port Talbot police station. By its nature, the work undertaken by the Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership is delivered on a multi-agency basis including its statutory partners and the voluntary and private sector in order to achieve its strategy objectives.

During 2008/09 the Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership received a total of £1,049,014 in external grant funding from Home Office and Assembly.

The strategic priorities of the 2008-2011 partnership plan are:

Crime and the Fear of Crime

- Focusing on burglary, criminal damage, theft, auto-crime, violent crime, hate crime and prolific and other priority offenders
- Tackling the fear of crime and improving residents sense of security in their community

Anti-Social Behaviour

- Building on current processes to tackle anti-social behaviour
- Raising public awareness and perceptions about anti-social behaviour
- Analysing and re-defining specific categories of youth annoyance

Domestic Abuse

- Tackling issues of repeat victimisation
- Increasing awareness raising to specific groups
- Improving young people's awareness and understanding of domestic abuse
- Improving services available to those affected by domestic abuse

Substance Misuse

- Reducing the supply and use of Class A drugs
- Reducing alcohol related crimes
- Identifying unmet need and demand for services
- Sourcing new funds
- Increasing awareness of the dangers of substance misuse
- Reducing waiting lists for substance misuse assessments

Young People who Offend

- Reducing the number of young people who offend
- Reducing the number of persistent young offenders
- Reducing the re-offending of young people under the supervision of YOT
- Reducing first time entrants into the Youth Justice System
- Reducing the use of custody
- Implementing and developing the Youth Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Prevention Strategy 2008-2011

Deliberate Fires

- Reducing the number of dwellings without smoke alarms
- Reducing the number of secondary fires, particularly grass fires

Partnership Working

- Achieving the Hallmarks of Effective Partnership Working
- Implementing and developing a new communications strategy
- Promoting and developing activities to reassure and increase public confidence
- Establishing effective project management processes
- Increasing creativity and innovation in partnership working

Achievements

Detailed overleaf are some of the achievements and progress made by the Partnership over the last year. The work of the Partnership impacts on all of the themes in the Community Plan and its initiatives and projects also support the Western Valleys Strategy and active citizenship.

Crime and the Fear of Crime

- Awareness raising campaigns took place about community safety issues, Examples included Christmas Campaign, Safer Six Nations, Internet Crime and Stop Bogus Callers Campaign
- Established information sharing protocols with local A & E Departments
- Developed and implemented the Criminal Damage and Violent Crime Strategies

Anti-social Behaviour (ASB)

- A number of successful initiatives were funded from the ASB Intervention Fund. Examples included raising of perimeter fencing in Aberavon, ASB Tri-signs Crime Reduction Initiative and the production of the ASB Educational DVD – *'Nothing Stopping Me'*
- Successfully secured continued funding for the ASB Outreach Team

Domestic Abuse

- Awareness raising campaigns took place to raise the issues of domestic abuse as being both unacceptable and criminal behaviour. Examples included White Ribbon Day, Christmas Campaign, Valley Valentine's Campaign, International Women's Day and Safer Six Nations
- Established closer working relationships with the three Women's Aid organisations in the county borough

Substance Misuse

- West Glamorgan Council for Drug and Alcohol Abuse Ltd (WGCADA) in liaison with the Substance Misuse Action Team (SMAT) expanded the service to a new building located in Cymmer which extended the drug treatment services available
- The provision increased by the appointment of dedicated social workers attached to CDAT, who work alongside WGCADA to support the family network
- Participated in 'Health Inspectorate Wales Review of Substitute Prescribing Services' – Welsh Assembly Government

Young People who Offend

- As a result of the Youth Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Prevention Strategy 2008-2011, the appointment of a prevention manager to implement the strategy has been appointed
- 'Stop Repeat Offending' initiative with the YOT and BCRP has been established whereby if the young person carries out reparation work and all parties are satisfied the ban imposed by the BCRP is reduced

Deliberate Fires

- Awareness raising campaigns took place to highlight the dangers of deliberate fires. Examples included Grass and Arson Reduction Campaign, Operation Bang, Crucial Crew, Splash programme, and Christmas Campaign

- Continued partnership for a Fire Officer to work with the YOT on Arson and Vehicle Crime
- Implemented a successful 'School's Assembly Arson Reduction Programme', in partnership with South Wales Police

Partnership Working

- Press and media coverage has increased as a result of updating the Communications Strategy
- Submitted entries for further award schemes
- Attended a number of community days throughout the county borough promoting the Partnership and its work
- Enhanced partnership working amongst its partners

During the next year

The Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership will:

- Deliver community safety advice and crime prevention days in local communities
- Continue to improve the management of our town centres at night ensuring that they are safe places to be
- Promote public reassurance, developing new initiatives to reduce the fear of crime
- Further extend and support the Business Crime Reduction Partnership
- Review the Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Strategy
- Continue to provide and promote the anti-social behaviour public helpline
- Encourage the public to report incidents of anti-social behaviour, ensuring that they receive information and feedback on the outcomes of their reporting
- Improve the Partnership's responses to young people who have been reported for incidents of anti-social behaviour
- Support the implementation of the Domestic Abuse work plan
- Provide the training aspect to raise awareness of domestic abuse with communities and professionals
- Promote the Wales Domestic Abuse Helpline
- Work with the relevant agencies to ensure that children and young people who witness or are involved in incidents of domestic abuse are safeguarded and their welfare is promoted
- Secured funding for a further twelve months for the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
- Further develop prevention and treatment services within the statutory and voluntary sectors, including services for older people, better outreach provision and domestic abuse work
- Use licensing legislation to tackle irresponsible attitudes to the sale and consumption of alcohol
- Work towards achieving the Welsh Assembly Government's Key Performance Indicators

- Continue to develop a wide range of measures and activities to reduce and prevent offending, and re-offending by children and young people under the age of 18
- Continue to develop the 'Youth Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2008-2011' which includes further measures to prevent young people offending or becoming involved in anti-social behaviour
- Continue to support the 'Off Road' motorcycling track in the Swansea Valley and continue working with partners to develop further provision
- Run a 'Summer Arts College' for 6 weeks during the summer holidays arranged by YOT (the only one in Wales in 2008). The course will benefit 10 young people who are at high risk offending and enable them to gain skills and explore routes into employment and careers within the arts and creative industries
- Continue to maintain home fire safety checks in domestic properties
- Develop and implement projects to tackle grass and forestry fires
- The Police and Fire Service to work together in facilitating the Rural and Forestry Team to address arson related issues
- Further develop the Phoenix provision to encompass and extend provision for young people
- Engage more effectively with local communities, promoting active citizenship and encouraging partners to do the same
- Improve links with the local press and media and further develop the communication strategy to promote public reassurance and the work of the Partnership
- Review the organisation of the Partnership to ensure it remains fit for purpose

Monitoring Report

The Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership's progress against crime reduction targets are measured nationally by the Home Office and are set on an annual basis. Public Service Agreements (PSA 23/25) targets have been set by the Home Office for each Partnership and are measured by police recorded crime. The timescale for these targets commenced 1st April 2008 and ends 31st March 2009. Detailed below are the categories of crimes measured, with the target being to reduce overall crime in Neath Port Talbot by 3.5% as of the 31st March 2009:

- serious acquisitive crime
- most serious violent against the person
- assaults with less serious injury
- dwelling burglary
- theft from motor vehicles
- theft of motor vehicles

The baseline for this data was set in 2007/08. This has meant that it has been difficult to improve on performance in some of the crime categories, but through perseverance and an increase of police officers in the community safety team a significant reduction against the baseline targets has been achieved in some areas.

Whilst the lead responsibility for the targets lies ultimately with the police and council, the Action Sub Groups' lead officers are responsible for implementing the activities to achieve the specific targets in their area of responsibility.

1. Overall Crime

As of the 31st March 2009 the Partnership has achieved an overall reduction in reported crime of 4% since the baseline of 2007/08.

- The figures show that the sustained effort of the Partnership in focussing on crime-related matters has shown real benefits
- Long term and sustainable initiatives continued such as the Business Crime Reduction Partnership, the Late Night Economy and After Dark Strategy which have linked a number of initiatives in preventing crime in town centres
- The Priority and Prolific Offender scheme, a multi-agency approach to target the most prolific offenders within the locality, demonstrated positive outcomes
- Criminal Damage has been a key issue and there were several multi-agency initiatives this year which impacted on crime figures

Baseline (2007/08) (Recorded Crime – No's)	2008/2009		Change since baseline
	T	A	
10239	9881	9817	-422 (-4%)

Lead Partner: Police

2. Crime Types

Overall over the last twelve months the Partnership has seen significant reduction in most crimes. Crime types which demonstrate significant successes include theft of motor vehicles and assault with less serious injury. Listed are some examples of the work of the Partnership which have contributed to these reductions:

- Crime prevention initiatives were targeted through the media, Neighbourhood Watch meetings, Partnership and Communities Together (PACT) and other community events

- Addressed incidents of anti-social behaviour which impacts on all crime types
- Schools Liaison Officers and Crucial Crew events continued to educate young persons on community safety
- Concentrated campaigns were run during the Christmas period and through the Six Nations rugby season, including raising awareness, and patrols of hot spot areas
- Re-evaluated the Criminal Damage and Violent Crime strategies
- Tackled late night economy issues through After Dark initiatives
- Distributed polycarbonate glasses to many licensed premises which virtually stopped “glassing” incidents
- Continued the ‘Behave or be banned’ scheme, which targets offenders who are likely to commit offences in public houses and surrounding areas
- Continued the “Feel Safe” and “Repeat Victim” security schemes and multi agency road shows have taken place involving Age Concern, NPTCVS, and the Partnership Community Safety Team
- Promoted the hand and feet poster campaign, which targets vulnerable houses where owners have left doors and windows unsecured leading to opportunist burglaries
- Identified and targeted hot-spot areas where there were high numbers of theft of vehicles
- Increased the number of public and private car parks that are awarded Secure by Design status
- Undertook a leaflet campaign encouraging car owners to secure their vehicles
- Worked with the DVLA crusher operations that resulted in the removal of many potentially vulnerable vehicles

Each crime type is listed below

Crime Types	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Serious acquisitive crime	1985	1886	1791	-194 (-10%)
*Most serious violence against the person	64	61	79	+15 (+23%)
Assault with less serious injury	833	791	736	-97 (-12%)
Dwelling burglary	621	590	558	-63 (-10%)
Theft from motor vehicle	720	684	695	-25 (-4%)
Theft of motor vehicle	612	581	506	-106 (-17%)

* - Most serious violence against the person comprises of violent offences where the injury inflicted or intended is life threatening, and offences resulting in death, regardless of intent. Comparatively, numbers in Neath Port Talbot remain low, despite a small rise.

Lead Partner: Police

3. To reduce reported incidents of anti-social behaviour by 5%

As at the 31st March 2009 the Partnership achieved a reduction of 8%.
The decrease in reported incidents can be attributed to the following factors:

- An increase in knowledge of ‘anti-social behaviour’ included awareness raising activities, leaflet drops, community days etc and through national media campaigns. This is coupled with increasing expectations that reporting of anti-social behaviour will lead to action
- Easy reporting of anti-social behaviour via the Neath Port Talbot Anti-social Behaviour Hotline
- Increasing agency awareness as services and resources expand, e.g. the Estate Ranger Service and Police Community Safety Officers, generates more referrals
- Continued development of the ASB Outreach Team working with young people
- Closer working relationships in communities and within agencies

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Reported Incidents	5088	5834	4700	-388 (-8%)

Lead Partner: Anti-social Behavioural Unit

4. To reduce the number of young people, who receive outreach team intervention, who then progress to acceptable behaviour contracts or ASBOs.

- Targeting prevention messages through Community Safety, Youth Services, Flexible Learning Programme, Youth Inclusion Programme, Peer Education and Crucial Crew
- Attended school assemblies with all secondary schools in Neath Port Talbot to raise awareness of ASB and its consequences
- Supported through diversionary activities and education, examples included: Barn Project in Briton Ferry, Scuba Diving training, inter valley football competitions, canoeing and Youth Service ‘Rolling Zone Project’.

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Number of ASB referrals to outreach	----	----	264	----

Unable to establish a comparative measure at this stage, as 07/08 was not operating to the capacity level we achieved in 08/09

Lead Partner: Anti-social Behavioural Outreach Team

5. **To improve the level of public satisfaction with the anti-social behaviour service.**

All anti-social behavioural referrals received are followed up with a letter offering contact details for further information or further questions. This service will undergo a change management process to include public satisfaction measures.

Lead Partner: Anti-social Behavioural Unit

6. **To reduce the number of domestic abuse repeat victims by 5%**

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Repeat Victims	780	741		

Outcomes not available, awaiting final figures from South Wales Police

Lead Partner: Police and Domestic Abuse Forum

7. **To increase the arrest rate where a domestic abuse offence has been reported by 5%.**

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Arrest Rate	18.9%	19.9%		

Outcomes not available awaiting final figures from South Wales Police

Lead Partner: Police

8. To increase referrals successfully contacted by the IDVA service by 5%

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Referrals contacted	249	261	----	----

Due to changes in recording systems in 2008/09 the outcome measure can not be reported.

Lead Partner: Domestic Abuse Forum

9. To increase successful prosecution at the SDVC by 5%

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
% of successful prosecutions	67%	72%		

Outcomes not available, awaiting final figures from the Crown Prosecution Service.

Lead Partner: Magistrates Court

10. To increase arrests of other drug offences by 4.9%

As of the 31st March 2009 the Partnership had achieved an increase of 41%.

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Number of arrests of other drug offences	341	358	480	+139 (+41%)

Lead Partner: Police

11. To ensure for all drug arrests there is a referral to partner organisations

- Police Custody Officers have been trained to support the drug arrest referral workers to achieve this target.
- Any incidents in licensed premises related to alcohol and/or substance misuse will automatically be referred to WGCADA and individuals are

banned from licensed premises until they have attended an appointment for advice and support.

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
% of Drug arrests referred to partner organisations	100%	100%	100%	---

Lead Partner: Police

12. To reduce the number of young people who have received substantive outcomes

- A Prevention Manager has been appointed to manage the implementation of the prevention plan together with the operational managing of Youth Inclusion Programme and Anti-social Behavioural Outreach Team, which are now operating more closely together
- The Children's Inclusion Project (ChiP) commenced operations in October 2008, with Barnado's being the delivery agent. This scheme targets young people age 8-11 at risk of social exclusion, anti-social behaviour or offending. The scheme is funded by the Big Lottery People and Places fund and this is for an initial three year period

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Number of young people with substantive outcomes	304		314	+10 (+3%)

Lead Partner: Community Safety/Youth Offending

13. To reduce the number of persistent young offenders

Over the last twelve months there have been a number of initiatives, examples include

- The Business Crime Reduction Partnership continues to work with YOT to address the issues of juveniles committing crime on business premises
- The local Prolific and Other Priority Offenders Strategy is being reviewed to improve the joint partnership approach to dealing with the issues raised by these offenders

As of the 1st April 2009 this category of young people will no longer be used by the Office of Criminal Justice Reform and will be replaced by the 'Deter group'.

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Number of persistent young offenders	33		34	+1(+3%)

Lead Partner: Youth Offending Team

14. To reduce re-offending of persistent young offenders under the supervision of YOT

As of the 31st March 2009, the Partnership achieved a 13% reduction. Over the last twelve months there have been a number of initiatives targeted at the most difficult to engage, examples include

- Reparation work was completed either directly to the victim or within the communities of Neath Port Talbot. Initiatives included shopping for the elderly for Age Concern and redecorating Port Talbot Train Station in partnership with Arriva Trains
- The Fast 50 Project in Ystalyfera which is a motor bike project designed to reduce anti-social bike riding and develop young people's skills in bike mechanics and safe bike riding commenced operations in partnership with BTCV
- An OCN Independent Living skills course was run with an accredited qualification upon completion. This course is a cooking programme combined with independent living skills
- Partnership activities with Mentro Allan and the Down to Earth Project in the Gower

As in 13 above from the 1st April 2009 this category will no longer be used by the Office of Criminal Justice Reform and will be replaced by the 'Deter Group'.

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Number of offences committed by persistent young offenders	145		126	-19(-13%)

Lead Partner: Youth Offending Team

15. To reduce first entrants into the Youth Justice System

Over the last twelve months below are some examples of initiatives undertaken:

- Youth Inclusion Programme based in Sandfields continues to target the 50 most at risk young people aged 13-16 in the area vulnerable to social exclusion, anti-social behaviour or offending
- The Splash Programme ran in 2008/09 and offered a variety of diversionary activities for young people in the Aberavon and Sandfields areas
- ASB Unit launched an educational DVD – the aim to raise awareness of processes and prevent anti-social behaviour contracts (ABCs) and anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs)
- Continued development of the ASB Outreach Team working with young people identified as at risk of anti-social behaviour
- Countywide multi partnership project bids were successful in securing funding for diversionary sporting activities from the Sports Council for Wales
- School Liaison Officers continued to deliver the All Wales Police Core Programme in schools in Neath Port Talbot

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Number of First time entrants to the Youth Justice System	195		200	+5(+3%)

Lead Partner: Community Safety/Youth Offending Team

16. To reduce the number of deliberate fires by 1.5%

Deliberate fires include grass fires, forest fires and building arson and the Partnership has achieved a reduction of 28%. Over the last twelve months concentrated efforts by the Fire and Rescue Service and partners to educate, as well as measures to prevent arson included:

- Seasonal grass/forest fire campaigns
- Phoenix courses for young people to teach them the impact of arson and how to prevent it
- A fire officer working with the Youth Offending Team to undertake preventative work with young offenders including arson reduction and vehicle theft initiatives
- A fire officer working with young people on the Forest School Project for young people exhibiting challenging behaviour at school

- Provided a set at the annual Crucial Crew Event to raise awareness among young people of the importance of smoke alarms, fire escape plan for family and to identify and remove hazards in the home that can cause fires.
- Promote Fireflash campaigns at events to demonstrate the dangers of chip pan fires and how to avoid or deal with them
- Provided poster boards in all secondary schools, to promote themed Fire Safety Education Messages
- Ten 'Firefighter for a Day' courses ran throughout summer period.
- School Assembly First Strike, message delivered to all secondary schools to deliver Grass and deliberate Fire Setting Message
- Media Campaign on Swansea Bay Radio, themed seasonal messages

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Number of deliberate fires	1423	1400	1029	-394(-28%)

Lead Partner: Mid and West Wales Fire Service

- 17. To increase the ratio of dwellings with operating smoke alarms to 60%.**

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Ratio of dwellings with operating smoke alarms	57%	60%	46%	-11%

Lead Partner: Mid and West Wales Fire Service

- 18. To reduce the number of hoax calls by 10%**

As of the 31st March 2009 the Partnership achieved a reduction of 10%

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Number of hoax calls	106	95	95	-11(-10%)

Lead Partner: Mid and West Wales Fire Service

19. To increase the number and geographical coverage of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes.

As of the 31st March 2009 the Partnership achieved an increase of 2.

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Number of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes	85	-	87	+2 (+2%)

Lead Partner: NPTCBC and Police

20. To increase the geographical coverage of Partnership and Communities Together (PACT)

PACTs were established in neighbourhoods across Neath Port Talbot the initiative commenced in 2006 and has continued to grow. PACT meetings are designed to enable Police and communities to agree the top three priorities for action to address local community safety issues.

As of the 31st March 2009, the Partnership achieved an increase of 21%

	Baseline (2007/08)	Target (2008/09)	Actual (2008/09)	Change since baseline
Number of PACTs	33		40	+7 (+21%)

Lead Partner: Police

21. To assess the impact of crime and disorder related news items in local press and media.

The Partnership's communication strategy has been reviewed and developed further to provide a more innovative approach in promoting public reassurance and the work of the Partnership. A communication group has been established which meets regular to review past reports and plan forthcoming media campaigns for the Partnership.

Lead Partner: NPTCBC and Police

22. Raise the profile of the Partnership through achieving competitive award schemes.

The Partnership has submitted a number of initiatives for award schemes:

- Home Office – The Tilley Award
- South Wales Police – Non Operational Team of the Year
- Partnership Excellence award
- Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service – Firebreak Wales
- Glan Afan Comprehensive School won the South Wales Police Crime Prevention Quiz
- Volunteer of the Year Award (Adult category)

Lead Partner: NPTCBC and Police

Neath Port Talbot Local Service Board

Overview of Progress 2008/9

The Local Service Board (LSB) has built on the history of good partnership working which exists across the borough. It is made up of strategic partner organisations who have agreed to work together to deliver the aims and objectives of the Neath Port Talbot Community Plan. It seeks to promote integrated services and remove organisational barriers to effective delivery of public services which are based around the needs of citizens.

Local Service Boards bring together the leaders from across public, private and voluntary sector organisations to work more efficiently and effectively. In Neath Port Talbot, leaders from the following organisations are members of the Board:

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Service
Neath Port Talbot Local Health Board
Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust
National Public Health Service
South Wales Police
Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service
Environment Agency Wales
Jobcentre Plus
West Wales Chamber of Commerce
Town and Community Councils

In addition to these leaders, a senior civil servant from WAG is also a member of each LSB.

Neath Port Talbot LSB meets on a bi-monthly basis and has a range of priority projects that it is currently working on which include:

Health Challenge Neath Port Talbot

This is a project which is focusing on the health of the population as a whole. The project aims to improve the health of citizens, so that everyone can live healthier, more independent lives and have a better quality of life.

Successes to date:

- The Health Improvement Leadership group has been expanded to include a broader range of partners such as the Police and Fire Service who have in turn taken a lead in developing certain aspects of the project.
- A marketing campaign targeting the business community has been undertaken to raise awareness of health improvement.
- A new health improvement delivery model has been agreed and implemented.

The Delivering Integrated Services Project

This project is focused on health and social care services and looks at how greater integration and better joint working can be achieved between the NHS Trust, the Council, and the Third Sector so that the citizen receives better care at the right time in the right place by the right person.

Successes to date:

- A pilot Lifestyle Coach project which uses coordinated information and behaviour change to support self care amongst citizens is underway in two GP practices in Neath Port Talbot and is having positive results.
- The development of the Community Integrated Intermediate Care Services (CIIS) has been completed and has been successful in receiving funding. A recruitment process is underway with the service expected to be in place in the autumn of 2009.
- Information regarding self help groups and local services in Neath Port Talbot has been included on the NHS Direct database and a Local Community Resource Inventory has been developed as a self-care support tool.

Joint Citizen Engagement

Across Neath Port Talbot, organisations are engaging and consulting with the public in many different ways. Where it is appropriate, this project aims to encourage organisations to work together to consult with the public on what they consider they need, and to ask how our services can be improved.

Successes to Date:

- A Joint Engagement Hub, "Talking Neath Port Talbot" has been developed. This website will be rolled out in the autumn of 2009 and will support all partners in improving how they engage with citizens and raise awareness amongst partners of what engagement activity is being undertaken so that greater joint working can be promoted.
- A Joint Citizen Engagement Strategy and Toolkit to assist partners in planning citizen engagement activities has been developed.

The Local Delivery Agreement (LDA)

The LSB has developed a Local Delivery Agreement for the financial year 2009/10. The aim of the LDA is to define the projects which the LSB commits to delivering, with agreed milestones and timescales and identified benefits to citizens. The LDA is also a tool that allows the LSB to prioritise the actions it needs to take to improve partnership performance. Projects found within the LDA are priorities that reflect both local and national priorities.

More information on the LSB can be found at:

<http://www.npt.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=2541>