



Office of the
Deputy Prime Minister

Creating sustainable communities

Autumn Performance Report

2005



Office of the
Deputy Prime Minister

Autumn Performance Report 2005

Presented to Parliament by
The Deputy Prime Minister and the First Secretary of State
by Command of Her Majesty
December 2005

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Introduction

This is the Autumn Performance Report for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM). It provides Parliament with performance information on ODPM's Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets up to November 2005.

The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister

The aim of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister is "Creating Sustainable Communities". Sustainable communities are about things that matter to people: decent homes at prices people can afford; good public transport, schools, hospitals and shops; people able to have a say on the way their neighbourhood is run; and a clean, safe environment. The role of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister is to help create sustainable communities, working with other Government departments, local councils, businesses, the voluntary sector, and communities themselves.

In January 2005 the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister published two five-year plans – *Sustainable Communities: Homes for All* and *Sustainable Communities: People, Places and Prosperity*, representing the next phase in delivering the ambitious long-term vision set out in the £38 billion Sustainable Communities Plan.

Sustainable Communities: Homes for All recognises that a decent, affordable home is a fundamental requirement of a sustainable community and offers more choice and opportunity in housing across the country.

Sustainable Communities: People, Places and Prosperity acknowledges that improvements to housing, infrastructure and the environment, whilst being essential to creating sustainable communities, are not on their own enough. It sets out our plans to work at every level to improve the communities that people live in: putting people in control and giving them the tools to shape their future; good governance; and strong leadership.

Following the general election in May 2005, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister undertook a stocktake to ensure we have full alignment across all our policies and programmes. Taken together our five year plans, our strategic priorities (set out in Annex B) and our PSA targets seek to secure:

- A **step on the housing ladder** for new generations of homeowners; quality and choice for those who rent; ensuring mixed sustainable communities, based on public and private investment;
- **High-quality public services for all**, shaped by individuals and communities to meet their needs, delivering value for money and visible results;
- Communities – especially the most disadvantaged – connected to **economic activity and social opportunity**;
- **Towns and cities that are world class** for their economic and social life; more power for neighbourhoods to decide things that matter to them;
- **Inclusive communities** that are bound together by values of decency and mutual respect – where we help prevent anti-social behaviour, enforce rules consistently and swiftly, and build respect in all communities.
- **Improved regional arrangements** to maximise the effectiveness of planning and investment at this level;
- **robust local government finance**; securing a strategic role for local government;
- Modernisation of the fire and rescue service;
- The **Thames Gateway Programme** as a cross-Government project.
- ODPM's contribution to **delivering the Olympics**;
- **Effective policies to tackle disadvantage** and social exclusion

Central to our success in achieving these high-level goals, critical projects and cross-Government action, is progress against our PSA targets.

What this report covers

This report details progress against the 2004 Spending Review PSA targets (set out below), as well as the PSA targets still live from previous spending reviews.

For each PSA target we have set out:

- ODPM's PSA targets and, where appropriate, associated milestones;
- the performance indicators used to measure progress;
- an up-to-date report on performance against the targets;

- the data systems used to monitor progress and an assessment of the quality of these data systems.

This information is provided to supplement the performance report on our PSA targets given in the ODPM Annual Report, published in June 2005 and available online at:

<http://www.odpm.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1123047>

Our Public Service Agreement Targets

SR04 targets

PSA 1 Neighbourhood Renewal – Tackle social exclusion and deliver neighbourhood renewal, working with departments to help them meet their PSA floor targets, in particular narrowing the gap in health, education, crime, worklessness, housing and liveability outcomes between the most deprived areas and the rest of England, with measurable improvement by 2010.

PSA 2 Regional economic performance – Make sustainable improvements in the economic performance of all the English regions by 2008 and over the long term reduce the persistent gap in growth rates between the regions, demonstrating progress by 2006 (shared with the Department of Trade and Industry and HM Treasury).

PSA 3 Fire – By 2010, reduce the number of accidental fire-related deaths in the home by 20% and the number of deliberate fires by 10%.

PSA 4 Local Government – By 2008, improve the effectiveness and efficiency of local government in leading and delivering services to all communities.

PSA 5 Housing Markets – Achieve a better balance between housing availability and the demand for housing, including improving affordability, in all English regions while protecting valuable countryside around our towns, cities and in the green belt and the sustainability of towns and cities.

PSA 6 Planning – The planning system to deliver sustainable development outcomes at national, regional and local levels through efficient and high quality planning and development management processes, including through achievement of best value standards for planning by 2008.

PSA 7 Decent Homes – By 2010, bring all social housing into a decent condition with most of this improvement taking place in deprived areas, and for vulnerable households in the private sector, including families with children, increase the proportion who live in homes that are in decent condition.

PSA 8 Liveability – Lead the delivery of cleaner, safer, greener public spaces, and improvement of the quality of the built environment in deprived areas and across the country, with measurable improvement by 2008.

2

Strategic Priority One:
Tackling disadvantage by reviving the most deprived neighbourhoods, reducing social exclusion and supporting society's most vulnerable groups

PSA1 – SR2004 PSA target

**Tackle social exclusion and deliver neighbourhood renewal, working with departments to help them meet their PSA floor targets, in particular narrowing the gap in health, education, crime, worklessness, housing and liveability outcomes between the most deprived areas and the rest of England, with measurable improvement by 2010.
(also contributes to Strategic Priorities 3 and 5)**

Milestones

The measure of success for achieving this PSA is that the 6 PSA 1 floor target indicators set out below are achieved within their respective time frames.

Performance Indicators

As with the SR2002 PSA 1 target, the current PSA 1 relies upon the delivery of floor targets by Government departments who own them, including ODPM, in the 6 key outcome areas.

'Floor target' is a generic term to describe a series of targets that sets a minimum standard for disadvantaged groups or areas, or a narrowing of the gap between them and the rest of the country.

The trajectory for this PSA is the combination of the trajectories contained in individual departments' delivery plans for those floor targets.

The 6 key PSA 1 floor target indicators that ODPM's PSA 1 will be judged against:

Health

In deprived areas, substantially reduce mortality rates from heart disease and stroke and related diseases so that the absolute gap between the national rate and the average rate for deprived areas is reduced by 40% by 2010.

Education

Raise standards in English, maths and science in secondary education so that, by 2008, in all schools located in Local Authority Districts in receipt of NRF, at least 50% of 14-year-olds achieve level 5 or above in each of English, maths and science.

Crime

In Local Authority Districts in receipt of NRF which are also high crime areas, reduce aggregated crime by a greater percentage than the aggregated reduction in the non high crime areas.

Worklessness

For those living in the Local Authority wards with the worst labour market position that are also located within Local Authority Districts in receipt of NRF, significantly improve their overall employment rate, and reduce the difference between their employment rate and the overall employment rate for England.

Housing

By 2010, bring all social housing into decent condition, with most of this improvement taking place in deprived areas.

Liveability

By 2008, compared to the baseline year 2003-04, reduce the percentage of Local Authority Districts in receipt of NRF judged to have unacceptable levels of litter and

detritus at a greater rate than the percentage rate reduction for all Local Authority Districts nationally.

Progress

Progress by the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit (NRU) on PSA 1 indicators and its own individual workstreams

The following sections provide details of key NRU achievements in its work across Whitehall and actual floor target progress. It then goes on to describe what has been achieved with Government Offices, Local Strategic Partnerships and neighbourhood renewal programmes, and what it is doing to develop and promote the evidence base for neighbourhood renewal.

Supporting and Challenging Government Departments to Deliver Floor Targets

The NRU has continued to use its unique support and challenge role across Whitehall, working with other Government Department officials and Ministers to ensure that service delivery in health, education, worklessness, crime, housing and liveability address deprived neighbourhoods.

Specific achievements include:

- The joint production and publication, with the Department of Health, of an extensive guidance document for tackling health inequalities and neighbourhood renewal, which supports the delivery of the Public Health White paper "Choosing Health".
- Working successfully with the DWP to produce its 5-year strategy, which commits to an increased focus on tackling barriers to employment faced by people from disadvantaged groups and deprived areas, and commitment to reducing Invalidity Benefit claimant number by 1 million.
- Launching the new Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI), which provides funding to stimulate self employment and enterprise in deprived areas. This is a joint approach with DTI and HMT input. The NRU completed LEGI consultation exercises in July and has allocated £10 million of pump-priming money to the 88 NRF areas, which will support them to develop better proposals for the main LEGI funding to be released in 2005/2006. This was accompanied by a "next steps" document offering practical advice on what we are expecting partnerships to think about in the development of their proposals

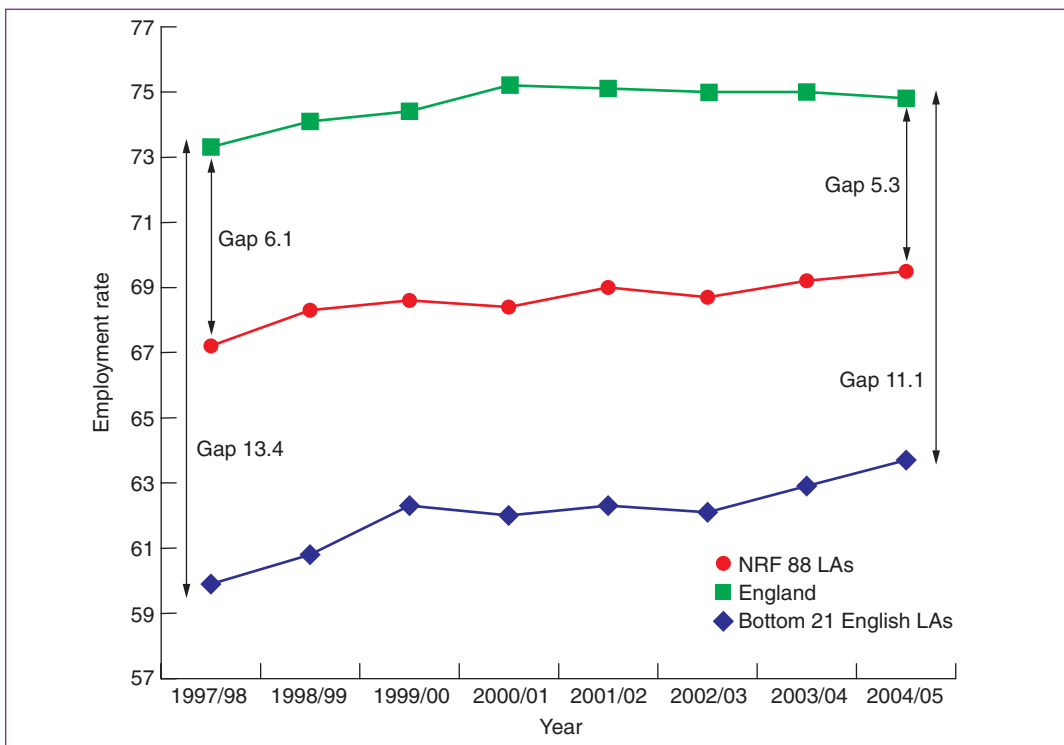
- Working with DfES to ensure that its induction package for the new role of 'School Improvement Partner' acts as a focus on NR and deprivation.

Progress on the 6 key PSA 1 floor target indicators

Worklessness

At the time of writing this report, data for the new ward-focussed DWP SR04 target are not yet available. Using the SR02 worklessness target, which focuses on local authority districts as a proxy, considerable progress is being achieved, with the gap narrowing between the national (England) employment rate and that of the 21 English Local Authority districts with the poorest initial labour market position by one percentage point, from 12.1 to 11.1 between 2003/04 and 2004/05. Furthermore the gap between the overall rate for the 88 NRF areas and the England average has also narrowed, from 5.8 to 5.3 percentage points over the same period. The figures are 4-quarter averages for that year.

Overall employment rate – Bottom 21 LAs, England and NRF 88 LAs 1997/98 to 2004/05



Source: DWP Labour Force Survey

Education

The PSA 1 measure for education is around Key Stage 3 attainment for schools. Successful delivery will have been achieved if by 2008, in all schools located in Local Authority Districts in receipt of NRF, at least 50% of pupils achieve level 5 or above in each of English, maths and science. An analysis of 2003/04 data shows that, in NRF areas, 32.4% of schools were below the floor target in 2004, compared with 11.0% in non-NRF areas.

Despite this, encouraging national results this year support expectations that DfES expects to secure further improvement through the White Paper reforms, and through the intensive support that will become available to schools below the floor target coupled with the work of School Improvement Partners.

Crime

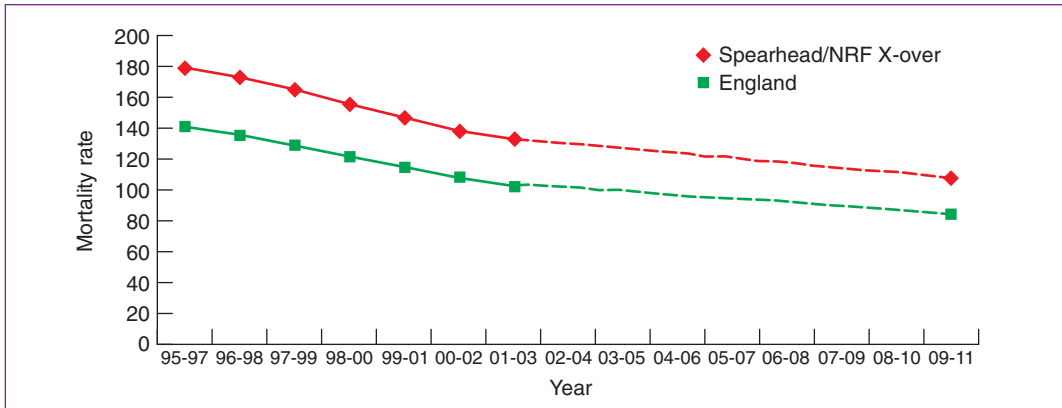
Successful delivery of this target will rely on crime being reduced at a faster rate in NRF high-crime areas than elsewhere in the country. So far, good progress has been made against this target and it is likely that the floor target will be met, albeit that fluctuations in data are to be expected.

Health

'Deprived areas' for this indicator are the group of Local Authority Districts in receipt of NRF which are also identified as being part of the Department of Health "spearhead group" of areas having the worst health and deprivation indicators in the baseline years (1995-97). Of the 70 local authority districts in the spearhead group, 60 currently receive NRF.

There has already been a 20.7% reduction in the absolute gap since the baseline year, and DH is confident of meeting the overall target of a 40% reduction by 2010 (this target reduction is shown in the graph below by the dotted lines. It should be noted that this is not a trajectory). The absolute gap in the baseline year was 37.8. In 2001-03 it was 30. For the target to be achieved it needs to be 22.7 by 2010.

Circulatory disease mortality rate



The source of data for the graph and table above is mortality statistics from death registrations calculated by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Housing and Liveability

The relevant sections in this report, on the Decent Homes and Liveability PSAs (PSA targets 7 and 8) report progress on those targets.

Progress on Other Government Floor Targets

Whilst these are not floor targets that ODPM PSA 1 delivery is being judged against, we continue to have a strong interest in their delivery, given their importance to the tackling disadvantage agenda:

Employment Rates for Disadvantaged Groups

Four-quarter average 2004/05 employment data from ONS indicate that the gap between employment rates for lone parents, over 50s and the lowest-qualified in NRF areas as compared to non-NRF areas, has decreased or at least stayed the same. The gap for BME groups has widened over the last year.

GCSE Attainment

Confirmed 2003/04 GCSE data show that the gap in pupil attainment of 5 A*-Cs has narrowed from 12.7 percentage points to 9.8 between NRF areas and non-NRF areas between 2000 and 2004.

Teenage Conception

Teenage conception rates have been falling steadily at both the England and NRF 88 levels. The average rate for the NRF 88 areas has fallen more quickly than the national average, thus reducing the gap between the two (from 12.6 points in 1996-

98 to 11.6 points in 2000-02). Most recent data indicate that the gap at 2001-03 is now 11.7, representing an increase of 0.1 since 2000-02.

Life Expectancy

On life expectancy the most recent figures (for 2001-2003) confirm that the relative gap for males between the national average and the Spearhead Group is still widening (by 1.4% since the baseline). These data also show that the gap for females between the national average and the Spearhead Group has also been widening (by 5.7% since the baseline).

Improving the performance of Government Offices, LSPs and Programmes in the delivery of Neighbourhood Renewal.

In addition to working closely with other Government departments (OGDs) to ensure that their delivery chains and specific service-providers make a concerted effort to address deprivation and social exclusion, the NRU adds value to the delivery of neighbourhood renewal through the direct funding and operational delivery of neighbourhood renewal activity, through local strategic partnerships (LSPs) and neighbourhood renewal programmes. These are supported and challenged through neighbourhood renewal teams in the 9 Government Offices for the Regions.

Government Offices

The delivery of neighbourhood renewal relies heavily upon the significant input made by our teams in Government Offices for the 9 regions of England. They support and challenge the performance of NRU-funded LSPs and programmes. Specific NRU achievements with GOs include:

- Deployments of specialist performance improvement capacity in each GO during the performance assessment of LSPs, to enable them better to challenge those LSPs to drive forward delivery of floor target outcomes.
- Agreement of GO Skills and Knowledge Action Plans for each region, focusing on strategic support to drive up partnership performance.
- The piloting in London of a specific delivery skills training course on improving outcomes for deprived BME communities.

Local Strategic Partnerships

There are 88 LSPs funded by the NRU through its neighbourhood renewal fund (NRF), on the basis of the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2000. Using the analysis from the self-assessment of NRF-funded LSPs from the previous year (2004/05), those LSPs that demonstrated weaknesses in floor target delivery have been

provided with a package of tailored support by the NRU to enable them to focus on their challenges and develop their delivery capabilities. This has included:

- Setting up Minister-led delivery seminars to ensure high-level partner commitment to addressing poor outcomes. These seminars were held with a number of LSPs including Oldham, Sandwell, Hull, Plymouth, Liverpool, Leeds, Tower Hamlets, Birmingham, Lambeth and Islington.
- Deploying assignment managers to act as strategic advisers in all of the LSPs highlighted through the 2004/05 PMF process as having the greatest support needs
- Establishing a specific dialogue with those strategically significant LSPs receiving a large proportion of NRF funding whose floor target performance is weak. This has commenced with a high-level meeting between the DPM and leaders/Chief Executives of those LSPs and has continued with the development of 4 specific “what works” events to be delivered in November. These will offer opportunities to share practice and develop better delivery approaches for 4 different but challenging floor target outcome areas.

During the spring and summer, all 88 NRF LSPs have completed their PMF self-assessments and annual reviews with GOs as part of the 2005/06 performance management framework. This has enabled them to identify weaknesses in their performance and key areas for improvements that will lead to improved floor target outcomes.

- Having looked at all the annual review reports received via Government Offices, the analysis for this year shows that 35% were given a green overall rating, 47% amber/green, and 18% amber/red. This represents a slight shift from amber/green to green from last year’s performance assessment and indicates a stronger focus on the delivery of neighbourhood level outcomes.

Other achievements include the following:

- Allocation of the new NRF resources for next two financial years (2006/7 and 2007/08);
- Further progress on the cross Government supported Priority Places Project, involving Manchester, Southwark and Nottingham LSPs. Agreement has been secured for 4 thematic task groups to address strategies for improving delivery of floor targets, with OGD engagement with these 3 areas who have weaknesses in floor target performance;
- Publication of the LSP business engagement toolkit enabling more significant business participation in neighbourhood renewal;

- Refreshing the large group of neighbourhood renewal advisers (NRAs) who provide specific advice and technical support to LSPs, NR programmes and local service providers and assist them in addressing challenging delivery issues.

Continuing to provide, through Renewal Academy, a national programme of delivery skills training courses for neighbourhood renewal practitioners, and supporting/maintaining Renewal.net which is an online resource for tackling deprivation. During the period of April to September 2005, 123 people attended Renewal Academy courses and Renewal.net achieved 276,000 user sessions.

Improving performance and delivery of NR Programmes

The NRU continues to fund specific neighbourhood renewal programmes in deprived areas. These are the New Deal for Communities (NDC), Neighbourhood management pathfinders and the Neighbourhood Wardens Scheme.

The main focus for the Programmes division is the forthcoming merger of programme funding for pathfinders, wardens and community networks into the Safer Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF). This change also involves a shift from direct NRU funding to funding agreed through local negotiations and set out in Local Area Agreements (LAAs). Working with LG colleagues in ODPM, we have contributed to the guidance for LAAs and SSCF, including development of a mandatory outcome for community empowerment and a set of indicators to measure and assess progress.

Workshops and regional meetings with Community Engagement Networks (CENs) and Government Offices have been used to communicate the changes and to identify risk factors that need to be addressed during the transition. LSPs will be expected to maintain support to CENs that are 'fit-for-purpose'. We have set out the criteria that GOs might use to make this assessment and are providing NRA support to any CENs that are vulnerable. We are also encouraging CENs to gather evidence of the added value they bring to their LSP and have made a study based on Hull CEN available as a model for this sort of scrutiny.

A similar strategy has been used to prepare Neighbourhood Management Pathfinders (NMPs) for the changes that will come fully into force in April 2006.

Further progress is illustrated as follows:

- From a Mori Household survey published this year, providing a local resident's perspective on NDC programmes, it was found that increased numbers of local people were satisfied that NDCs were improving their area.
- The NRU issued guidance to support the process of ensuring the ongoing sustainability of neighbourhood warden programmes.

- Regional warden resource centres have been set up and are operational, providing technical support to warden programmes.
- Seminars have been held in each region, targeting those areas likely to receive the Neighbourhood Element of the Safer Stronger Community Fund from 2006
- The “improving outcomes” project has been launched with a group of NDCs and NMPs, which aims to support and learn from participating programmes who are trying to tackle poor outcomes for BME groups at a local level through a greater focus on ethnicity monitoring.
- The table below provides recent data on NDC outcomes achieved in the period April to June 2005.

| Theme | Outcome |
|-----------------|---|
| Employment | 3,033 Local people entering employment |
| Education | 37,664 Number of people benefiting from projects designed to improve attainment |
| Crime/Community | 20,775 young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary projects |
| Crime | 20 additional Neighbourhood Wardens employed |
| | 6,071 homes/businesses with increased security |
| Health | 16,309 people benefiting from healthy lifestyle initiatives |
| Community | 1,491 Number of Community/voluntary groups currently supported |

Building the Neighbourhood Renewal Evidence Base

The Research and Development Division (RDD) of the NRU provides a critical function in developing the evidence base for neighbourhood renewal. In the past 6 months it has commissioned a very extensive and large scale three year evaluation study which will assess the impact of the national strategy for neighbourhood renewal. It has also commissioned other very important pieces of work including:

- An evaluation into the impact of NRF
- Further evaluation studies into the impact of the various neighbourhood renewal programmes described earlier.

- The Supporting Evidence for Local Delivery (SELD) pilot project, where regionally-based research support services in 4 regions are testing how the improved use of evidence may better contribute to neighbourhood renewal delivery.
- Data-focused research reviews that are examining the sources of data that are most useful for local target setting and delivery. A research study is also assessing the nature and effectiveness of systems that have been developed at a local level to share, present and help interpret local and national data.

These important pieces of work are in addition to the ongoing work being carried out with ONS to deliver the neighbourhood statistics service (NeSS) which will make a significant impact on local delivery by making available neighbourhood-level data related to the 6 key PSA 1 outcomes. RDD has also continued to provide the online service “Floor Targets Interactive”, which is accessed via the NRU website. This service provides recent floor target performance data at a local authority district level, and is refreshed regularly to ensure it reflects the most recent data releases.

Testing new approaches to neighbourhood renewal

In addition to evaluation of neighbourhood renewal activity currently underway, the NRU tries to develop innovative approaches to tackling deprivation which it pilots at a local level. Two projects have been developed in the past 6 months which are underway.

The Mixed Communities Project

This is an approach based on a US model for addressing poor neighbourhoods through changing housing tenure, management and quality of design. 3 mixed communities demonstration projects have been set up across England: Harpurhey in Manchester, Gipton in Leeds and Canning Town in London. ODPM and HMT have set up a high level steering group to oversee the project. This is a policy that is being explored for possible wider implementation.

Quality of data systems

The NRU relies on published data sets, and the systems producing them, from ONS and other Government Departments to track its progress on floor targets. This data is then used to provide individual NRF area analysis on Floor Targets Interactive, which can be reached electronically through the NRU website www.neighbourhood.gov.uk

3

Strategic Priority Two:
Promoting the development of English Regions by improving their economic performance so that all are able to reach their full potential, and developing an effective framework for regional governance, taking account of the public's view of what is best for their area

PSA 2 – SR 2004 PSA target

Make sustainable improvements in the economic performance of all the English regions by 2008, and over the long term reduce the persistent gap in growth rates between the regions, demonstrating progress by 2006 (shared with the Department of Trade and Industry and HM Treasury)

Milestones

Making sustainable improvements in economic performance

- The trend rate of growth for Gross Value Added per head for all regions, measured over the period 2003-08, compared with the average growth between 1990/91 and 2001;

Reducing the persistent gap in growth rates between regions

- Reduction over the period 2003-2012, compared with the baseline (the period 1990/91 to 2001) in the absolute gap between the average trend growth rate in the three regions that currently have above-average Gross Value Added per head (London, South East and East) and the average trend rate for the other six regions;
- Increase for each region in trend growth over the period 2003-2012 compared with the baseline.

Performance Indicator

The main indicator for this target is Gross Value Added (GVA) per head in each region. Next GVA data are expected to be available Dec 05/Jan 06.

Progress

On course.

A full assessment of trends in regional economic activity and disparities cannot be fully determined until the current economic cycle is complete. However, the evidence so far is encouraging:

- in 2003 (the last year for which we have GVA data) the six under-performing regions had nominal GVA growth rates between 5.3 per cent and 5.5 per cent: and
- All regions of the UK grew in 2003 (between 2.4 per cent and 5.5 per cent).

In addition to the GVA data there is other encouraging evidence. In particular unemployment is decreasing and employment rates are up in the North.

The elected regional assemblies strand of this target was **met** in November 2004. The people of the North East voted against the establishment of an elected regional assembly. Turnout was nearly 48%. After reflecting on this result, and taking into consideration the impact of a long period of uncertainty on local government in Yorkshire and the Humber and the North West, the Government decided not to bring forward orders for referendums to be held in either of these regions.

Quality of data systems

Performance against this target is measured through estimates of the trend rate of growth in GVA per head in each region for the period 2003-08. The gap in growth rates is measured by comparing the average growth rate of regions that currently have above-average GVA per head with the average growth rate of regions that currently have below-average GVA per head.

4

Strategic Priority Three:

Delivering better services, by devolving decision-making to the most effective level – regional, local or neighbourhood: Promoting high-quality, customer-focused local services and ensuring the availability to local government of adequate, stable resources. Clarifying the roles and functions of local government, its relationship with central and regional government and the arrangements for neighbourhood engagement, in the context of a shared strategy for local government

PSA 3 – SR2004 PSA target

**By 2010, reduce the number of accidental fire-related deaths in the home by 20% and the number of deliberate fires by 10%
(also contributes to Strategic Priorities 1 and 5)**

Milestone

Oct 05 – National Community Fire Safety Centre (NCFSC) major public awareness campaign

Nov 05 – Launch of draft youth strategy for the Fire and Rescue Service

Nov 05 – Launch of FRS Learning & Development Strategy

Dec 05 – Home Fire Risk Check (HFRC): review of progress against trajectory to achieve 1.25m HFRCs by 2008

Apr 06 – e-fire portal goes live

Apr 06 – Regulatory Reform Order comes into force and accompanying guides published.

Apr 06 – Integrated Risk Management Planning (IRMP) Year 3 plans in place following consultation

Apr 06 – Housing Health and Safety Rating System implemented

Apr 06 – Statutory licensing for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) implemented

2010 – FiReControl & Firelink: regional control centres all in place

Performance Indicator

- Reduction in number of accidental fire-related deaths in the home;
- No local fire and rescue authority having a fatality rate, from accidental fires in the home, more than 1.25 times the national average.
- Reduction in number of deliberate fires.

Progress

On course.

Progress towards the target of reducing the number of accidental deaths in dwelling fires has continued; these latest provisional figures show that there were 235 deaths in 2004/05, compared with 280 in 2003/04, a fall of 16%. Deliberate primary fires have fallen again in the latest year, 72,700 were recorded in 2004/05, a fall of 22% compared to 2003/04, and 23% below the 2010 PSA target of 94,000.

The latest fire statistics were released on 13 October. The fall in deliberate fires has been mainly due to the 24% fall in deliberate road vehicle fires (down to 44,400). A

number of factors are behind the decrease – an improved vehicle licensing regime; the success of vehicle removal schemes, many of which have been funded by the Arson Control Forum; and recent increases in the price of scrap metal, which has increased the value of end of life vehicles making them less likely to be abandoned.

'Real time' Fire Of Special Interest (FOSI) figures (see below) collected on a monthly basis indicate that domestic fire-related deaths are continuing to fall. The challenge now is to ensure that these indications are consolidated into definite trends.

Analysis of the average number of accidental deaths in dwelling fires over the past five financial years (1999/2000 to 2003/04) against the floor target shows that 5 out of 47 services had a fatality rate greater than 1.25 the national average (5.9 deaths per million population (pmp), i.e. 7.3 deaths pmp). Consideration is being given to how best to engage with the 5 FRSs to discuss causes and how to improve their particular figures.

Quality of data systems

Since April 2004, deaths in fires are reported to ODPM from Fire & Rescue Services in England as Fires of Special Interest (FOSIs). However, we are aware that there is substantial under-reporting of fatality FOSIs to ODPM, and a FRS Circular was issued in April 2005 to encourage reporting of every fatality.

Despite the under-reporting, it is very useful to have 'real time' data rather than to wait the statutory year-and-a-day for official confirmed figures.

Consideration is now being given to capturing information about stakeholder work which contributes towards the PSA3 target

CSR PSA Target

An improvement in fire service efficiency of 2% a year through:-

increased co-operation and collaboration between fire brigades, including sharing resources between them and other emergency services; and

The introduction of modern standards of fire cover (subject to the outcome of trials).

Milestone

English Fire and Rescue Authorities to achieve £105m gross cashable efficiency savings in 2007/8.

Performance Indicator

English Fire and Rescue Authorities to achieve £105m gross cashable efficiency savings in 2007/8.

Progress

This target has now been rolled forward into ODPM's wider efficiency target, which assumes that English Fire and Rescue Authorities will achieve £105m gross cashable efficiency savings in 2007/8.

Fire and Rescue Authorities are making real progress delivering efficiencies at the front line, in areas such as better allocation of resources to risk, more efficient working practices, reducing responses to false alarms and better procurement. This indicates that Fire and Rescue Authorities are on track to meet the target. Their first Annual Efficiency Statements, due in November, should provide further evidence.

Quality of data systems

Arrangements for fire and rescue authorities to report efficiency gains through Annual Efficiency Statements were consulted on from July 2005, finalised and published in October 2005 with first reports due in November 2005.

PSA 4 – SR2004 PSA target

**By 2008, improve the effectiveness and efficiency of local government in leading and delivering services to all communities.
(also contributes to Strategic Priorities 4 and 5)**

Milestone

- Publication by Audit Commission of the new CPA 2005 framework for single-tier and county councils in October 2005
- Revised target and technical note to be published in December 2005
- Consultation launched by Audit Commission on the framework for CPA for district councils in September 2005
- First CPA results using 2005 framework published December 2005
- Target and measures to be reviewed by March 2006 following first results under new framework to ensure they remain robust, ambitious and deliverable

- First CPA categorisations, use of resource assessments and direction of travel statements for single-tier and county councils under the new framework to be published in December 2005
- Mid-year report on efficiency gains due from single-tier and county councils in November 2005
- Publication of mid-year efficiency assessments for 2005/06 in January 2006
- Publication by Audit Commission of CPA framework for district councils Spring 2006

Performance Indicator

- Net change in number of authorities with CPA categories from the baseline year in three groupings: “0* and 1*”, “2*” and “3* and 4*”.
- Change in direction of travel for individual local authorities;
- Change in average annual score of the CPA Use of Resources block, from the baseline year (of 2005).
- Progress against efficiency target for local government of £6.45 billion by 2007-08.

Success will be judged against three broad criteria: overall performance, as measured through the net change in the number of authorities in CPA categories from the baseline year of 2005; underlying direction of travel, measured through the new direction-of-travel statements; and efficiency/use of resources, measured by tracking the annual improvement in use of resources scores and the local government efficiency target. Detailed performance indicators will be set out in a revised Technical Note and published on the ODPM web site in December. The existing Technical Note is also on the ODPM site¹. Details of the efficiency target are set out in the ODPM Efficiency Technical Note published in January 2005².

Progress

On course.

¹ PSA 4 Technical Note at <http://www.odpm.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1122995>

² Efficiency Technical Note at http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_localgov/documents/page/odpm_locgov_032805.pdf

Effectiveness

Audit Commission published the 2005 framework for single tier and county councils, *CPA – the harder test*, on 14 October.³

Twelve Joint Area reviews of children's services and Corporate Assessments will be completed between September and December 2005.

Audit Commission completing 1st use of resource assessments for all Local Authorities (Single Tier, County and District Councils)

The first CPA categorisations, use of resource assessments and direction of travel statements against the new framework will be published in December 2005 and will form the baseline against which performance improvement to March 2008 will be measured. A statement on the Governments response to the new CPA results will be published in mid December.

Part 1 of the SR02 target – 'Introducing comprehensive performance assessments and action plans, and securing a progressive improvement in authorities' scores' – is subsumed into the SR04 target, **is assessed as met – ongoing and we propose not to report separately against it in future.** Progress on service delivery will continue to be measured on the basis set out above.

Average combined CPA scores have increased each year – from 69.87 in December 2002 to 76.28 in June 2005 – at which point the number of single-tier and county councils in each category as measured by CPA were: 47 excellent, 55 good, 33 fair, 14 weak and 1 poor. Two thirds of single-tier and county councils were categorised as either 'excellent' or 'good' compared to just over half when CPA was first introduced.

Results for District Council CPAs show that nearly half of all district councils (48%) were assessed as either excellent or good.

Efficiency

The efficiency target for local government is at least £6.45 billion by 2007-08. Efficiencies from schools, police and local authorities contribute to this target, of which local authorities' required contribution is £3.0 billion by 2007-08 (£1.0 billion by the end of 2005-06).

In their Annual Efficiency Statements, local authorities have calculated the efficiencies achieved in 2004/5 and outlined plans for efficiencies in 2005/6.

£750m efficiencies were achieved in 2004/5; an extra £1.2 billion efficiency is planned for 2005/6. Overall, therefore, local government has in place plans to

³ CPA – the harder test available on Audit Commission website at <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/CPA/Downloads/Oct05CPATheHarderTest.pdf>

improve efficiency by £1.9 billion by the end of 2005/6 – far in excess of the £1.0 billion target.

Part 2 of the SR02 target – Overall annual improvements in cost effectiveness of 2% or more – is overtaken by the SR04 target **and is assessed as not met**. We do not propose to report separately against it in future but will be reporting against the efficiency target for local services and use of resources scores from the new CPA framework.

Whilst there has been an increase in performance of 12.4% between 2000/01 (the baseline year) and 2003/04, as measured by the Performance Indicators, and a positive trend in overall performance across all local authority types and all CPA categories, this was offset by increases in local government expenditure. The cumulative change in cost-effectiveness since the baseline year is –0.31%.

Quality of data systems

The Audit Commission has an extensive database of CPA scores and analysis for each authority accessible through its website. It will continue to publish national reports summarising the CPA categories of all councils once a year and individual score cards for each council setting out in more detail the various elements that contribute to the council's overall category. However, the change in methodology means that scores and data relating to the 2005 framework will not be directly comparable with previous analysis.

Annual Efficiency Statements are submitted using the Electronic Service Delivery Toolkit, which is already embedded in authorities for submitting their Implementing Electronic Government (IEG) Statements. The data is signed off by Leaders, Chief Executives and Finance Directors, who must confirm that robust processes are in place. Those Statements are subject to review, first by Departments, then by external auditors. A cross-government (central and local) Measurement Taskforce is supporting councils by tackling technical issues.

SR2002 PSA Target – PSA 4 Part 3

Assisting local government to achieve 100% capability in electronic delivery of priority services by 2005, in ways that customers use

Milestones

Priority services to be e-enabled in ways people will use by end March 2006.

Performance Indicator

Authorities' progress in collectively achieving 100% e-enablement of priority services.

Success was measured collectively, as recorded in local authorities' returns for BVPI 157 (covering interactions with the public capable of electronic service delivery). It was also measured individually, as they report progress in delivering priority services electronically and achieving increased take up in their Implementing e-Government statements (IEGs).

Progress

On course.

The mid-year report (IEG 4.5 returns) was published on 22 August. It indicates that councils were on average 77% e-enabled at April 05 and that the average Council expects to be 98% e-enabled by December 05. Some 24 councils (6%) indicated that they would be less than 90% e-enabled by December 2005, and ODPM is providing additional support for these.

ODPM has negotiated a transfer of ownership of 16 of the 22 National Project products to host Local Authorities and aim to complete these by the end of December 2005. ODPM also launched in October the second phase of the Government connect programme, which will be developing single sign on/accreditation and secure government to government transactions. This will remove a major barrier to the take-up of e-government and e-transactions.

Quality of data systems

Best Value Performance Indicators provide robust, externally-audited and quality-assured data. IEG reports are prepared by Local Authorities and submitted on-line. The resulting data are also cross-checked by ODPM against independent data from the Society of Information Technology Management.

5

Strategic Priority Four:
Delivering a better balance between supply and demand by supporting sustainable growth, reviving markets and tackling abandonment

PSA 5 – SR2004 PSA target

**Achieve a better balance between housing availability and the demand for housing, including improving affordability, in all English regions whilst protecting valuable countryside around our towns, cities and in the green belt, and the sustainability of towns and cities.
(also contributes to Strategic Priorities 2 and 5)**

Milestone

Milestones SR2004 PSA Target

Low Demand: Reduction in the long term levels of vacant dwellings in the North West, North East and Yorkshire and The Humber.

High Demand: Annual levels of new housing in London and the East of England and South East regions to reach planning (RPG9) levels by 2006/7 and shortfalls from previous years to be recouped by 2011/12.

Homelessness: To reduce the upward trend in homelessness by 2007 and to halve the number of households living in temporary accommodation by 2010.

Performance Indicator

Low demand

- reduction in long-term rate of vacant dwellings as a percentage of the overall regional stock in a) North West and North East regions, and b) Yorkshire and Humber region;
- reduction in number of local authorities where house prices are significantly lower than comparable national levels;

High demand

- reduction in statutory homeless households with children in temporary accommodation;
- lower quartile prices to lower quartile earnings
- net additions to dwelling stock in the south East, East and London regions;

Progress

On course.

This is a complex objective involving a diverse range of workstreams across the regions tailored to reflect their specific circumstances. Whilst it is too early to make an assessment across all elements of the target, good progress is being made.

High Demand

- In the 12 months to July 2005, housing completions totalled 156,221, a 6% increase on the previous 12 months.
- We have made good progress in embedding our growth proposals within regional planning guidance
- Delivery of the Thames Gateway is under way and the programme is on course to meet its target. The Government's delivery strategy for the area, "Creating Sustainable Communities: Delivering the Thames Gateway" was published in March 05.
- In the 10 major growth locations agreed so far in the newer growth areas, delivery vehicles are fully established in 8 and are managing capital programmes on site infrastructure and community facilities, now totalling £400m over 5 years to 2007/8.

- We have established the £200m Community Infrastructure Fund and aim to announce the winning schemes by the end of 2005.
- We will be publishing the Government's response to the Barker Review of Housing Supply by the end of 2005.
- We continue to witness a sustained reduction in new cases of homelessness – acceptances have fallen by 17% compared with the same period last year and the use of temporary accommodation has stabilised. This is the result of increased investment in preventative measures and working closely with local authorities.
- In early 2005 we set a target to halve the number of households in temporary accommodation by 2010.
- The Bed and Breakfast target has been sustained, eliminating the long-term use of Bed and Breakfast hotel accommodation for families with children. The number of people sleeping rough has fallen to 459, the lowest level ever recorded and a 75% reduction on the figure for 1998.
- We have set the Housing Corporation a two year target of delivering 62,950 social rented and low-cost home ownership units from April 2004 to March 2006. Up to August 2005 the Housing Corporation had delivered over 50% of the two-year target (37,397 units).
- Within that overall total, we have set the goal of assisting 10,456 key workers through the Key Worker Living scheme. Up to September 2005 8,150 Key Worker Living units had been completed.

Low Demand

- The market renewal pathfinders have in place strategies to overcome low demand and abandonment and are refreshing these over the autumn.
- The pathfinders are working with a range of stakeholders including the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment, English Heritage, RSLs, local authorities and other regeneration schemes across their areas.
- In changing markets, pathfinders are broadly delivering agreed outputs, with some refocusing to reflect markets. By end-March 2005 they had refurbished over 9,600 homes (around twice the agreed figure), built almost 2,200 new homes and demolished just over 3,000.
- Pathfinders recognise that housing market renewal is not just about housing. They are therefore working hard to bring together employment, education

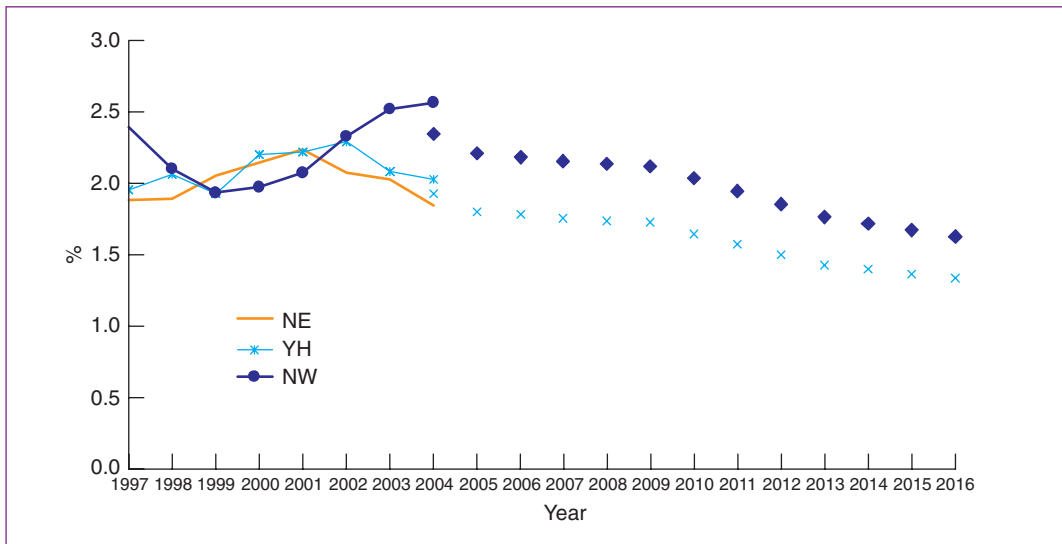
and leisure services to their areas in order to re-create sustainable communities.

- We have also announced £65m for intervention in other areas suffering from low demand, namely West Yorkshire, Tees Valley and West Cumbria.

Indicator 1 – Long Term Vacancies

Work on this indicator clearly identifies the North East, North West and Yorkshire and The Humber regions as the most affected by long-term vacancies. Areas most acutely affected by low demand are being tackled through implementing tailored solutions to the particular problems affecting the area.

Numbers of regional long-term vacant dwellings as a percentage of the overall regional stock for the North West, North East and Yorkshire and Humber



The targets set and associated trajectories set out below reflect the 2004 Spending Review settlement, which made available continued funding for existing Market Renewal Pathfinders and the limited funds in 2006/7 and 2007/8 for non-pathfinder activity.

As the trajectory shows, the North West is the only one of the regions where relative vacancy rates are currently increasing, although at a reduced rate.

Vacancy rates in the North-East and Yorkshire and The Humber continue to reduce, and we aim to ensure that the situation in these regions does not deteriorate. Our target for both regions is that long-term vacancies should be less than 20% above the average by 2008.

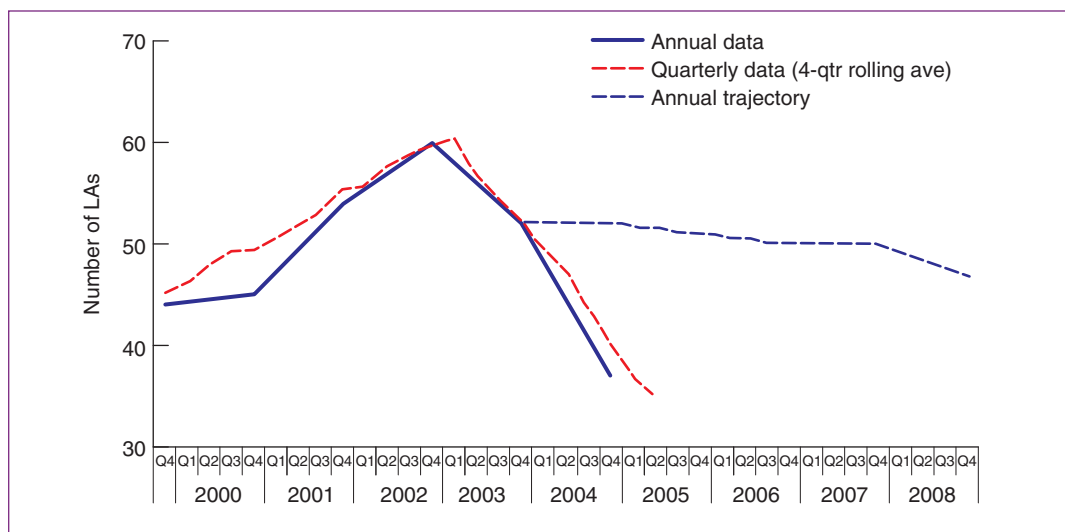
These targets reflect our expectation that, taken with the expected changes due to underlying economic cycles, activity in these Pathfinder projects should have some impact on long term vacancies in these regions.

Indicator 2 – Local authorities where house prices are substantially less than average

Again, this indicator is focussed on low-demand areas. Our ability to keep on this trajectory will, in part, be influenced by overall economic and housing market conditions, and the extent to which general geographic disparities in the housing market narrow over time. We are, however, seeing some impact from the Pathfinder projects that are active in at least 18 of the 60 authorities that had low house prices in 2002.

Our current target is to achieve a gradual reduction to 47 local authorities by 2008, which we are currently exceeding. We are considering the appropriateness of this target in the context of SR07.

Number of local authorities falling within Indicator 2

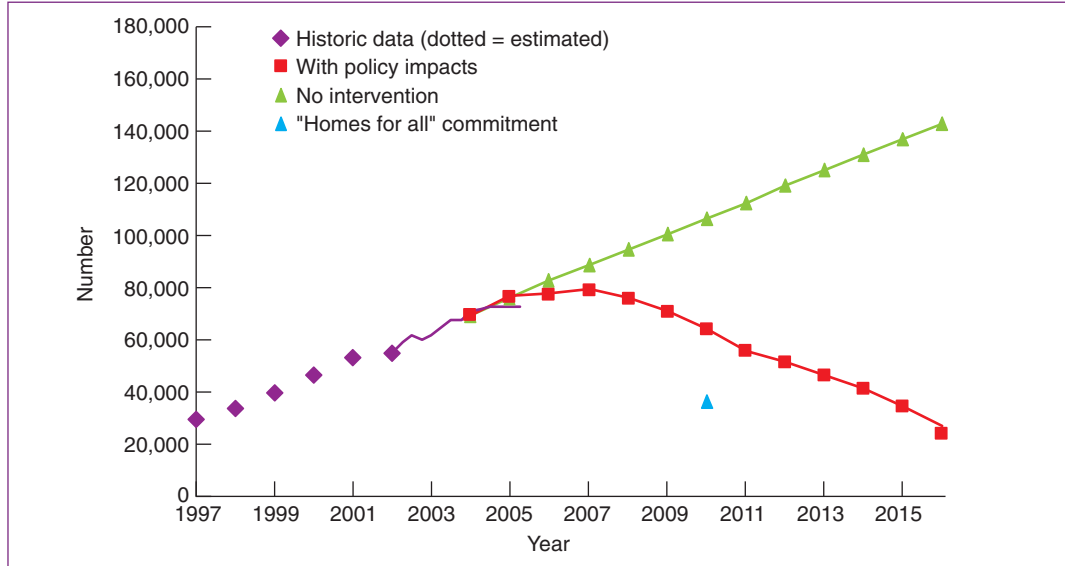


Indicator 3 – Statutory homeless families with children in temporary accommodation

The use of temporary accommodation for statutory homeless households is heavily concentrated in the higher-demand regions. In particular, while London accounts for a quarter of all homelessness acceptances in England, it has 60% of all households in temporary accommodation. Our policies concentrate on tackling the causes of

homelessness to prevent it more effectively, and increasing the availability of social housing and other settled housing options to homeless households.

Families with children in temporary accommodation



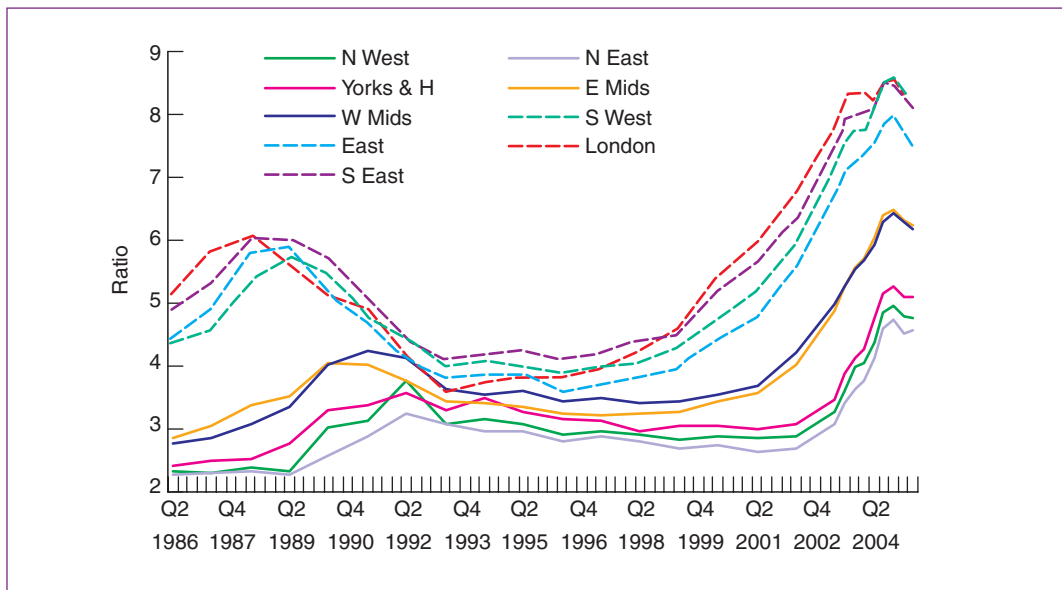
As the trajectory shows, after a number of years of continuing rises in the numbers using temporary accommodation, we are starting to see the numbers levelling off. This reflects the impact of new homelessness strategies and prevention work. We expect this improvement to continue over the next 12 months.

Our increased investment in prevention services and increased social housing investment through SR04 should see the number of households in temporary accommodation halved by 2010. This new target is set out in "Homes for All" and goes further than the SR04 commitment.

Indicator 4 – Lower-Quartile House Prices vs. Lower-Quartile Earnings in High Demand Areas

Our main lever for reducing and stabilising the price/income ratio at the lower quartile in high-demand areas will be the provision of increased numbers of new homes. We will achieve this through the delivery of existing Regional Planning Guidance targets and through additional housing provision in the four growth areas.

Ratio of lower quartile house prices to earnings in high demand regions



The ratio had been rising steadily for a number of years, but more recently we have seen a modest fall, especially in London, the South East, the East of England and the South West. This is due to short-term fluctuations in house prices and the economy.

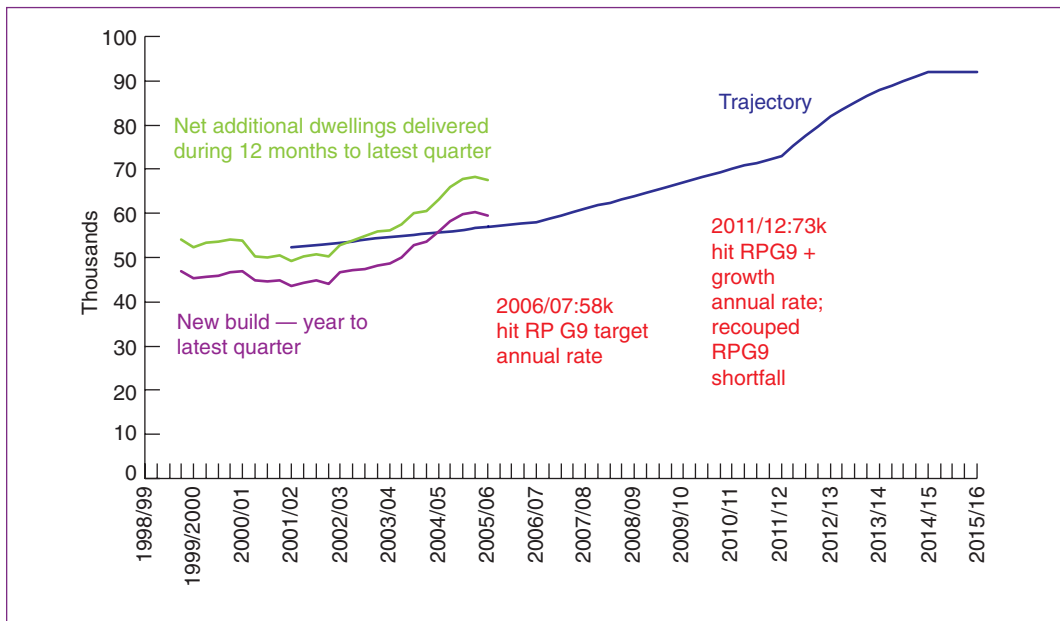
We expect a continued downturn in the ratio from 2006-8 as the additional homes provided under the Communities Plan start to enter the market. However, our ability to make improvements to this ratio will be heavily influenced by overall economic and housing market conditions.

We will be publishing the Government's response to the Barker Review of Housing Supply before the end of 2005. Amongst other things, we will set out our proposals for improving housing market affordability.

Indicator 5 – Net additions to the dwelling stock in the South East, London and the East (wider South East)

Our global target is to provide about 1.1 million new homes within the wider South East. Our trajectory assumes that we will reach RPG9 delivery levels by 2007/8 and have recouped previous shortfalls by 2011/12.

Housing Delivery in the RPG9 Area: Trajectory and Achieved Rate



We have witnessed a steady increase in the supply of new housing in recent years which has helped to make up the shortfall at the start of the RPG9 period. However, recent figures show a levelling off in new housing supply which reflects the recent cooling off of the housing market.

Quality of data systems

Data for the above indicators are drawn from a wide range of sources. All are subject to quality assessments carried out by ODPM’s team of statisticians and researchers, who also collate the data to reflect the indicators. The data are subject to periodic scrutiny by external specialists in the relevant fields and, where possible, data are also validated against that provided by other sources.

The key data sources are listed below against each indicator:

Indicator 1 – Statistical returns accompanying local authorities’ housing investment strategies, plus annual regulatory statistical returns provided by housing associations.

Indicator 2 – Land Registry for average (mean) sale prices.

Indicator 3 – Quarterly local authority returns. Data on homeless households with children have been collected only since January 2002.

Indicator 4 – Land Registry for sale prices. New Earnings Survey for earnings data.

Indicator 5 – Quarterly returns from local authorities adjusted to take account of conversions and demolitions in line with local authorities' annual net addition returns to the Regional Planning Bodies and the ODPM (Housing Flow Returns). From November 2005, housing flow returns data will be jointly collected by ODPM and the Regional Planning Bodies.

PSA 6 – SR2004 PSA target

**The planning system to deliver sustainable development outcomes at national, regional and local levels through efficient and high-quality planning and development management processes, including through achievement of best value standards for planning by 2008.
(also contributes to Strategic Priorities 2 and 3)**

Milestone

Performance Indicator

- No. net additional dwellings provided, whether by completions or conversions, as required in Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks, to balance supply and demand;
- Percentage of new housing development on previously-developed ("brownfield") land, or created through the conversion of existing buildings;
- Density of new housing development in each region;
- Area of designated green belt land in each region;
- Proportion of retail development going into towns;
- Achievement by Local Planning Authorities of relevant Best Value targets for handling planning applications;
- ODPM performance in meeting targets for First Secretary of State (FSS) planning casework;
- Achievement by Local Planning Authorities of milestones set out in their local development schemes for preparation of Local Development Documents;
- E-planning capability by Local Planning Authorities.

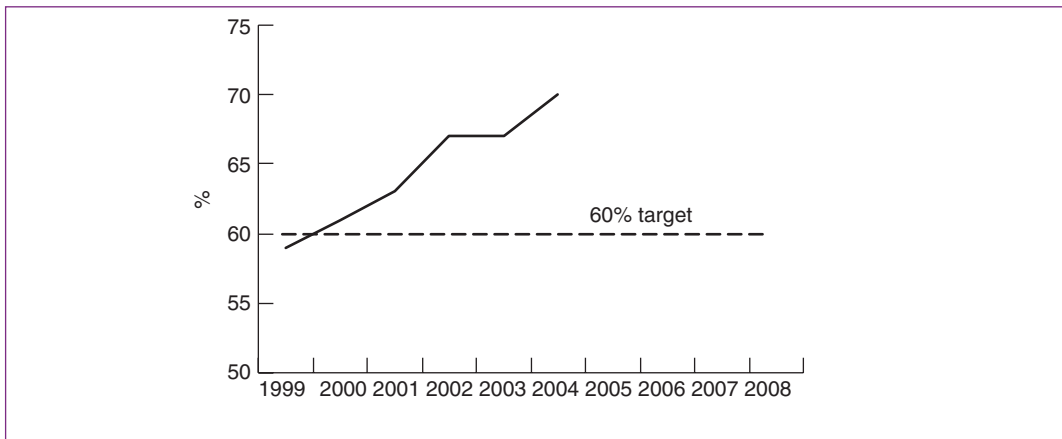
Progress

On course.

Indicator 1: Housing Delivery

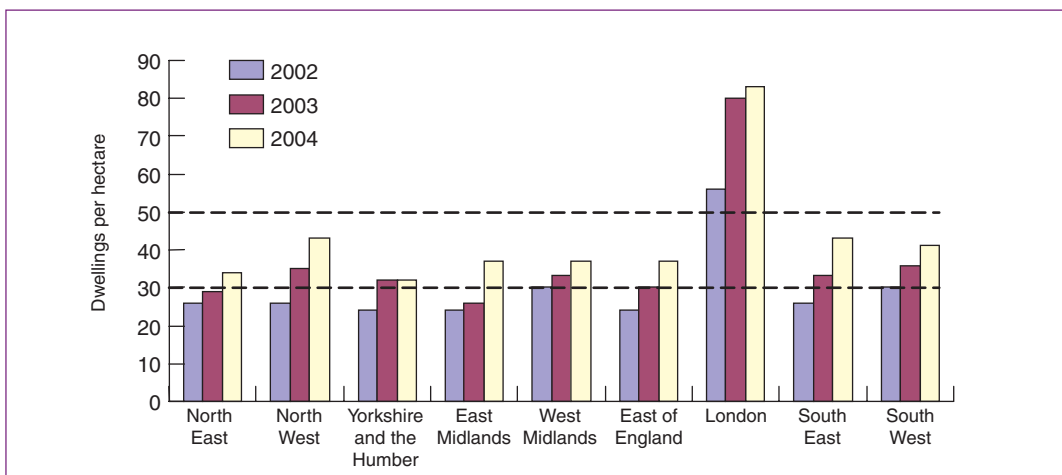
[Data available next year – see note below on Data systems]

Indicator 2: Percentage of housing development on previously developed land or created through conversions



The target of 60% of all new housing development being previously developed land, or provided through conversion of existing building, has been achieved or exceeded for the last 5 years. In 2004, on a provisional estimate, 70% of new dwellings were built on previously-developed land, including conversions

Indicator 3: Average density of new housing development in each region



All regions are exceeding PPG3 density objectives (50 dwellings per hectare in London, 30 dwellings per hectare elsewhere. In 2004, on a provisional estimate, new dwellings were built at an average density of 40 dwellings per hectare.

Indicator 4: Net change in area of green belt in each region

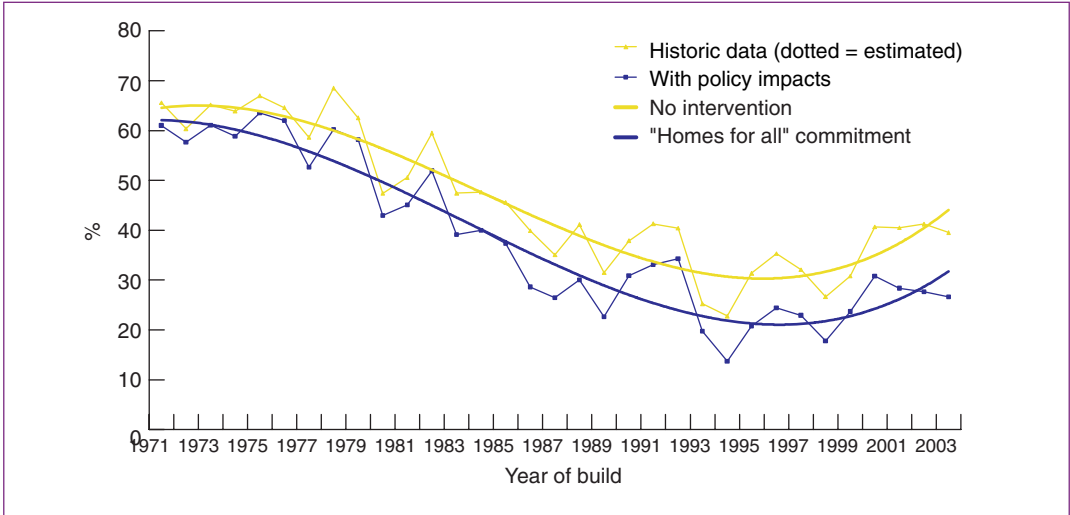
Green belt by Region: Hectares (000's)

| | 1997 | 2003 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| North East | 53.4 | 66.3 |
| North West | 255.8 | 260.6 |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 261.4 | 262.6 |
| East Midlands | 79.7 | 79.5 |
| West Midlands | 269.2 | 269.1 |
| East Anglia | 26.7 | 26.7 |
| London/wider South East | 600.3 | 600.5 |
| South West | 105.9 | 106.2 |

The target is that there should be an increase or no net change in the area of designated green belt land in each region over the period 2003-07. There was a net increase of 19,300 hectares in designated green belt, 1997-2003, with the next update of green belt data due in November 2005.

Indicator 5: Town Centre Regeneration

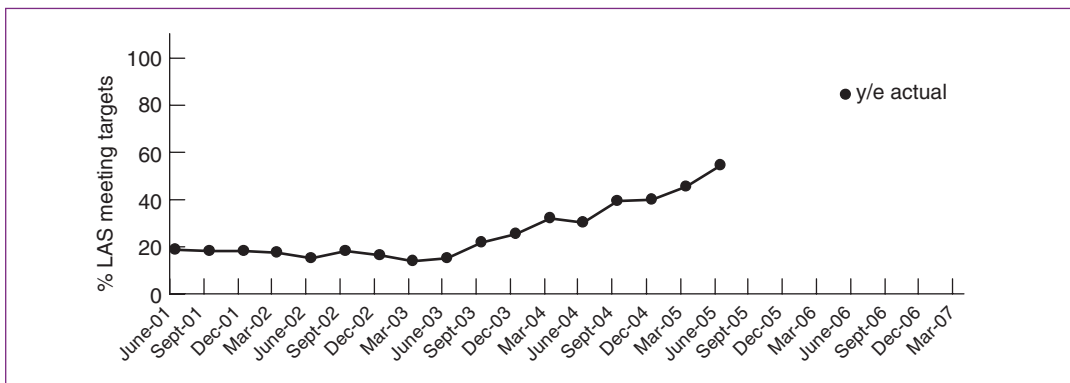
Percentage of newly built retail floorspace in town centres: (a) town centre and edge-of-centre^a; England; Provisional 1st April 2004 Valuation Office Agency data



^aSee ODPM Technical Report for detailed explanation of terms “town centre” and “edge-of-centre”.

The target is that there should be a year-on-year increase in the proportion of retail development going into towns over the period 2004-08. Publication of initial analysis of town centre statistics for 1971-2003 suggests that since the mid-1990s there has been an upward trend in the proportion of development in or near town centres. Updated analysis, including 2004 data, is due March 2006.

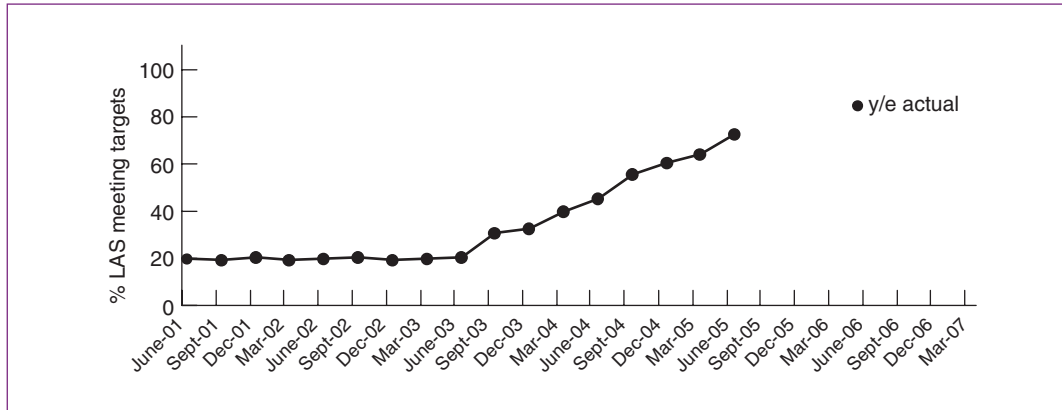
Indicator 6: Development Control



In the year ending June 2005, 55% of English local planning authorities were meeting the Best Value target that 60% of major planning applications are to be determined within 13 weeks.

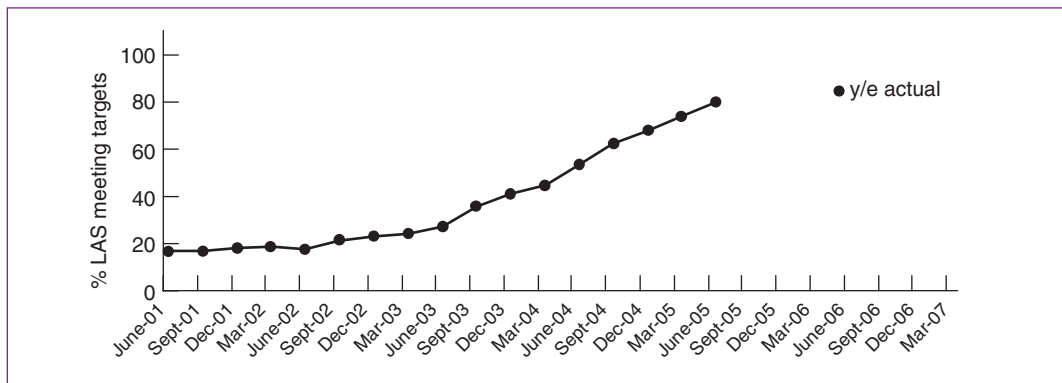
In the year ending June 2005, 72% of local planning authorities were meeting the Best Value target that 65% of minor planning applications are to be determined within 8 weeks.

Development control: minor performance



In the year ending June 2005, 80% of local planning authorities were meeting the Best Value target that 80% of other planning applications are to be determined within 8 weeks.

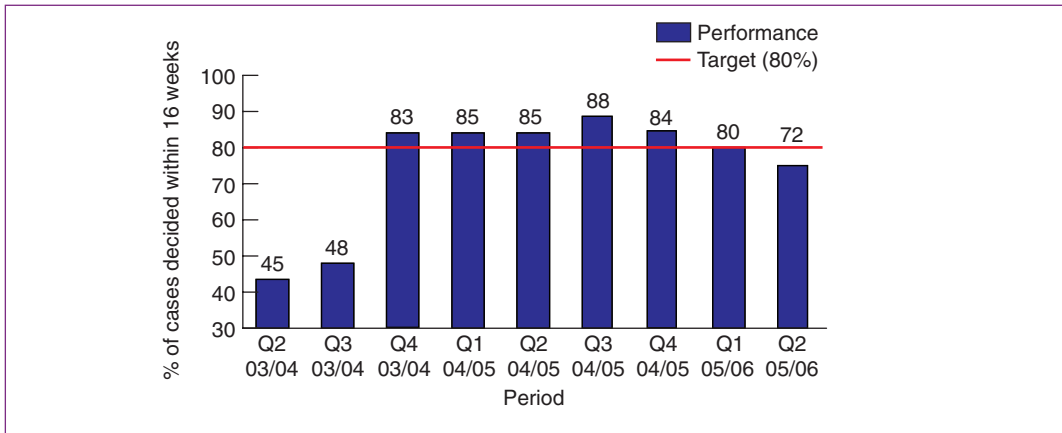
Development control: other performance



These figures represent continued progress towards 100% of local planning authorities achieving the Best Value targets by 31 March 2007.

Indicator 7: ODPM Casework

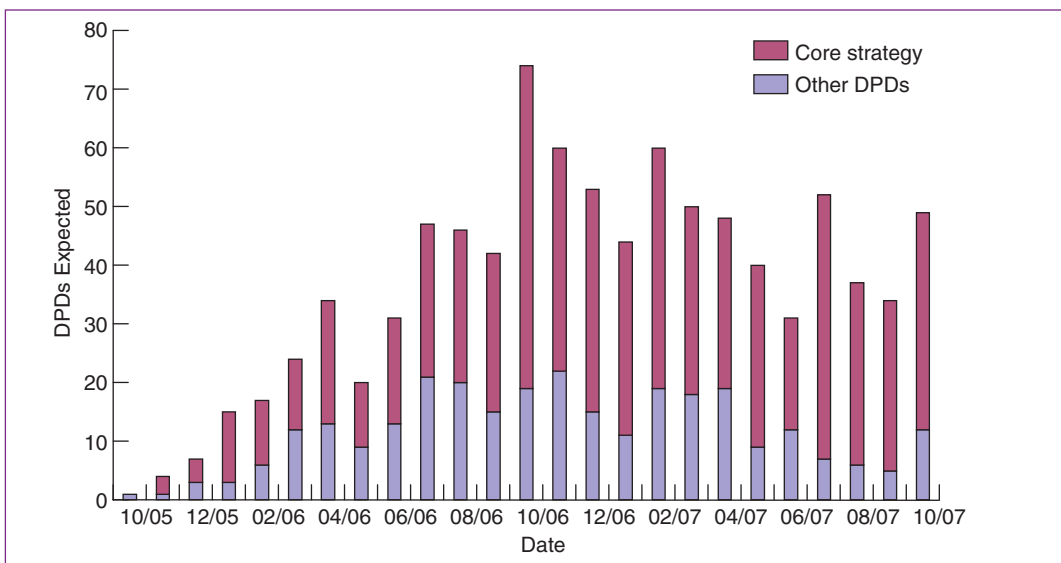
Performance against target



The target is that, from April 2004, 80% of all Ministerial planning cases are to be decided within 16 weeks from close of inquiry and, from April 2005, 100% of cases are also to be decided within statutory timetables. The target was met throughout 2004/05. For the six month period from April to September 2005, 74% of decisions were issued within 16 weeks. This is mainly due to a higher than normal number of large and complex cases, which by their nature typically require longer than 16 weeks from close of Inquiry to decide. However, all cases decided under the statutory timetabling regime were done so within the statutory target dates.

Indicator 8: Local Development Frameworks

Programme of DPD submissions according to first round of Local Development Schemes

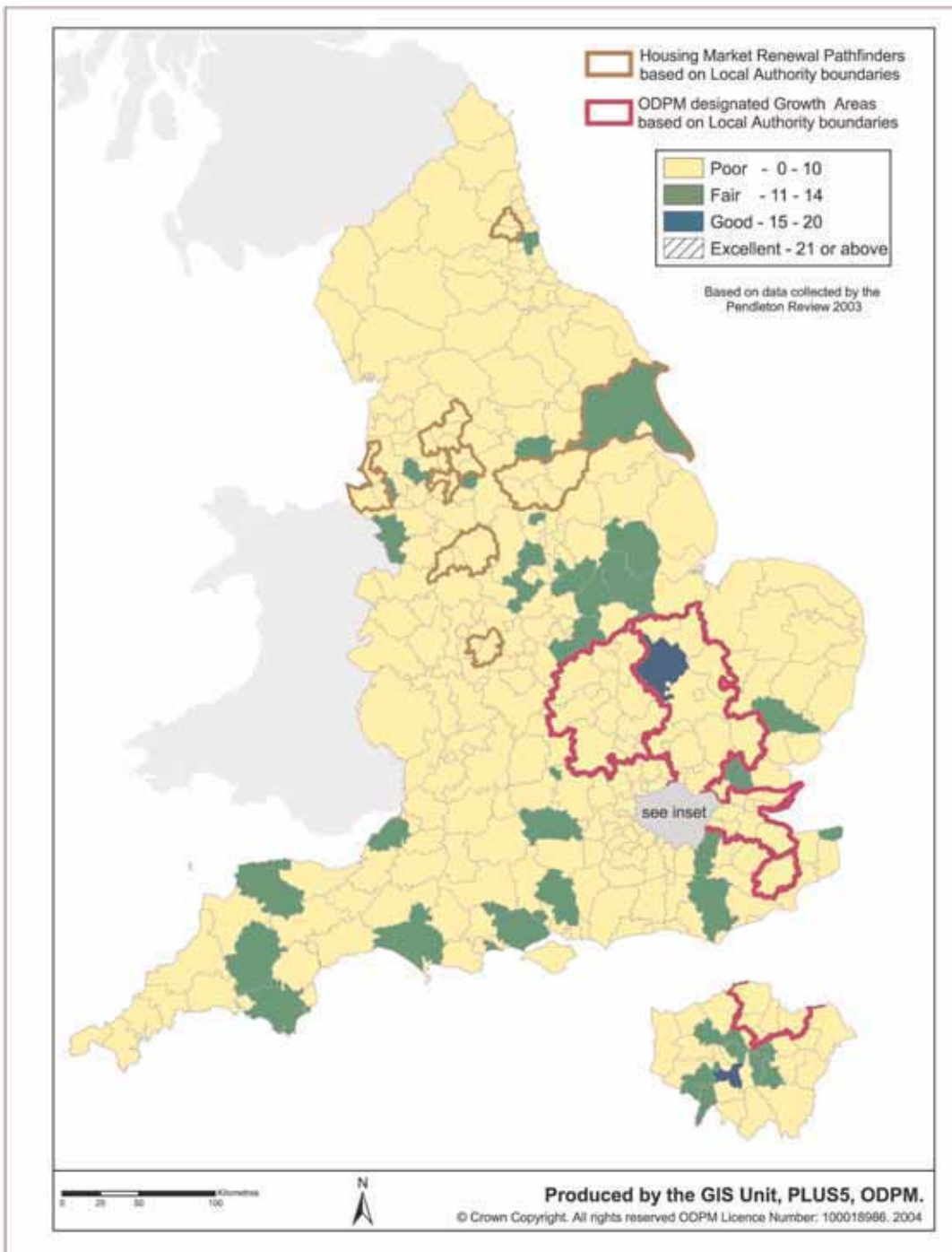


All local planning authorities submitted their Local Development Schemes by the 31st March 2005 deadline.

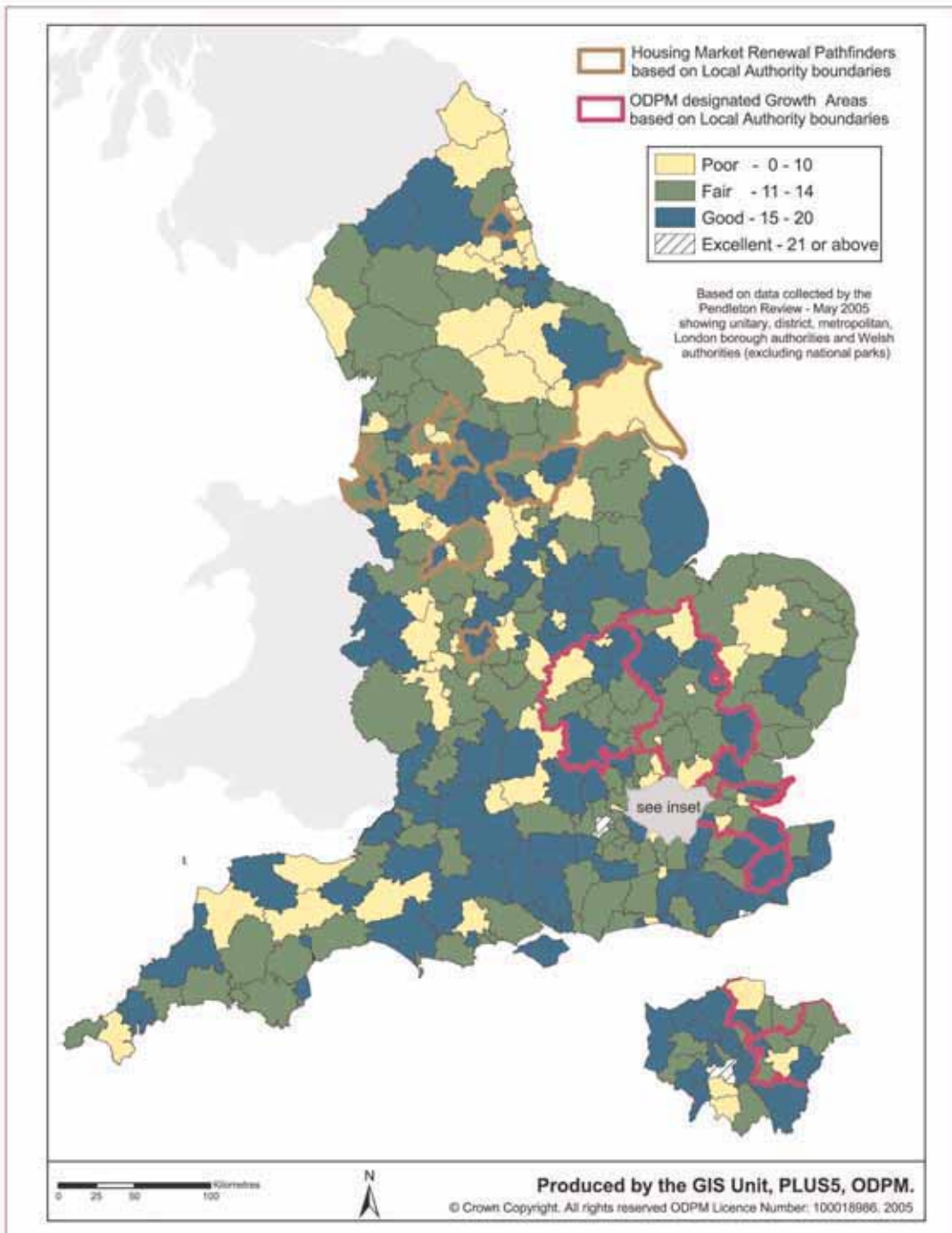
Indicator 9: E-planning

Target is that 80% of local authorities to have "good" or "excellent" e-planning services in place by March 2006.

Local Planning Authority – e-planning capability – Nov 2003



Local Planning Authority – e-planning capability – end April 2005 (England)



There has been an improvement in e-planning capability following incentivisation through the Planning Delivery Grant.

- 37% of authorities are now “good” or “excellent” compared with 0.5% in Nov 2003
- 42% are now “fair” compared with 11% in Nov 2003
- 21% are poor compared with 88% in Nov 2003

Quality of data systems

Data for the above indicators are drawn from a wide range of sources. All are subject to quality assessments carried out by ODPM's team of statisticians and researchers, who also collate the data to reflect the indicators. The data are subject to periodic scrutiny by external specialists in the relevant fields and, where possible, data are also validated against that provided by other sources.

Indicator 1

Future housing provision requirements for each region are set out in Regional Spatial Strategies (RSSs). The RSS annual monitoring report is required to report back on progress towards these targets. Local authorities are required to report on the progress towards their housing targets but also to include a housing trajectory in their annual monitoring reports. These trajectories show how new housing will be provided over the period of the plan. Success will be measured by delivery of housing against the target in the RSSs and Local Development Frameworks (LDFs) and as reflected in the housing trajectories for LDFs.

Annual Monitoring Reports are expected next year.

Indicator 2

Land Use Change Statistics (percentage of housing on previously developed land) and Housing Statistics (conversions). Information on land use change is provided by Ordnance Survey as part of its map-updating process. The data are validated on receipt by ODPM, and assessments of quality have been made by external research contractors, most recently in a report published in October 2004, which covered both percentages of housing on previously-developed land and the density of new housing development.

Indicator 3

Land Use Change Statistics (density of new housing in dwellings per hectare). Comments on the source and its quality as for Indicator 2.

Indicator 4

Annual national surveys based on digitised maps to monitor the overall designation through the planning system.

Indicator 5

The initial analysis of the broad location of retail development in relation to town centres in the period 1971-2003 is based on updated data which have been

analysed as part of ODPM's Town Centre Statistics Project. The analysis uses the most comprehensive retail floor-space dataset available, which is supplied by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA), in combination with ODPM's model for identifying and defining Areas of Town Centre Activity (ATCA). Although comprehensive, the analysis does have limitations and the results are provisional at this stage, pending further work to refine the model.

Indicator 6

Statistics of planning applications received and decided by district systems planning authorities have been collected on a quarterly basis since April 1979, on the PS1 and PS2 General Development Control statistical returns. Prior to April 1986, these returns covered applications and decisions under section 29 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 (since replaced by section 70 of the consolidated Town and Country Planning Act 1990).

Since then, data collection has been extended to cover other types of application requiring permission from local authorities, including listed building consents, conservation area consents and consent to display advertisements. This reflects the wider range of planning casework handled by district planning authorities. From April 1997, data have also been collected on receipt of Environmental Statements with planning applications, on the use of delegated powers, and on applications which the authority decided to advertise as departures from the Development Plan.

District planning authorities are sent the quarterly information bulletin together with more detailed figures for individual authorities in their respective Government Office region. These provide a set of yardsticks against which authorities can judge their own figures.

Indicator 7

A National Audit Office report confirmed that the data system for ODPM casework is fit for the purpose of measuring and reporting Secretary of State casework performance against the PSA6 and statutory targets.

Indicator 8

A central database exists which has captured the contents of the first round of Local Development Schemes (LDS). Most of the milestones of these schemes are some time in the future. Planning Directorate is working with GOs to establish a reporting system whereby early intelligence of any changes to the LDS programme is also entered into the database, so that a comparison between latest estimates of the programme and the published programme can be made.

PD have secured agreement from all users (individuals who input/maintain database) from participating organisations (GOs and the Planning Inspectorate) that it is their responsibility to ensure information on the database is current. This responsibility is reinforced through regular communications with users promoting the critical importance of this database for Central Government and their own organisations. Users are asked to perform audits on the information they manage and key information on the database is scrutinised at regular intervals to provide further assurance about its quality. The database also has a robust auditing process that automatically captures any changes made by users to the data (any mistakes/errors can be traced easily and rectified).

Indicator 9

BVPI 205 currently includes a measure of e-planning capability achieved by a Local Planning Authority. Capability is self-assessed by LPAs against four levels and based on an agreed set of criteria (the Pendleton criteria). ODPM is developing a success measure based on the proportion of LPAs rated as good or excellent by 2008 (also based on Pendleton or similar criteria). Performance will be assessed annually, using the BV 205 reporting process (or agreed alternative) and complemented by an independent survey.

Strategic Priority Five:
Ensuring people have decent places to live by improving the quality and sustainability of local environments and neighbourhoods, reviving brownfield land and improving the quality of housing

PSA 7 – SR 2004 PSA Target

**By 2010, bring all social housing into decent condition, with most of this improvement taking place in deprived areas and, for vulnerable households in the private sector, including families with children, increase the proportion who live in homes that are in decent condition.
(also contributes to Strategic Priority 1)**

Milestone

In the social sector, since 2001

- by 2006 a reduction of between 45-50%
- by 2008 a reduction of between 65-70%

In the private sector – by 2006-07 to ensure the proportion of vulnerable private sector households in decent homes is more than 65%, and is more than 70% by 2010.

Performance Indicators

The reduction in the number of non-decent social sector dwellings

Progress towards and attainment of this target will be assessed nationally each year using two combined and overlapping surveys from the English House Condition Survey (EHCS). Monitoring locally will be assessed through progress reported both by social landlords (including through local authority (LA) best value performance indicators and registered social landlord (RSL) regulatory returns).

The proportion of vulnerable groups living in decent private sector homes. Progress is assessed nationally each using surveys from the annual EHCS.

Progress

Social sector

Slippage – The baseline for the target is the 1.6 million non-decent homes that existed in the social sector in 2001. Of these, 1.17 million were owned by LAs and 470,000 by RSLs. The milestone requires a reduction of between 45% and 50% over the 2001 baseline by April 2006. The EHCS data show that at April 2004 the number of non-decents had reduced by 395,000 (24%).

Local authority and RSL data show that at April 2005 we had achieved an estimated reduction of 32%. Projecting this data forward to 2006, we now expect to see a reduction of 41% in the number of non decent properties, below our milestone range of 45%-50%.

However there are clear reasons why we are below trajectory.

Research indicates that just over half of social landlords are implementing decent homes through “elemental” programmes. This means that works will not count towards the target until the entire property is made decent. This introduces a significant lag in the reduction in the number of non-decent homes.

Decent Homes investment programmes are also coming on stream slower than previously anticipated. Since the ALMO programme’s inception, cumulative spend is over £250 million behind the original trajectory. This has resulted from ALMOs generally taking longer to get established than they initially anticipated. A number of ALMOs have also taken longer than anticipated to achieve the necessary two-star rating. However, once up and running further slippage has been minimal, and ALMOs typically keep to their agreed expenditure profiles.

The Sustainable Communities Plan announced that all stock-owning LAs will need to have completed a stock options appraisal for Government sign-off by July 2005. Of the 196 Local Authorities which required OA signoff, all bar 3 have had their Options Appraisals signed off, or have submitted them for sign-off.

Registered Social Landlords report that plans are already in place for most of their stock to ensure they will meet the decent homes target by 2010.

The EHCS indicates that we are on course to meet our target in deprived areas, with most of the reduction to April 2004 having taken place in these areas.

Private Sector

Ahead – The private sector element of the decent homes target was introduced at the Spending Review 2002. Progress is monitored from the 2001 baseline position established by the EHCS, which estimated 57% (1.5 million) vulnerable households lived in decent homes.

The English House Condition Survey reported that this percentage had risen to 65.5% by end-April 2004. We have therefore already achieved our 2006 milestone.

Quality of data systems

The concept of a decent home was introduced in 2001, with the final systems definition being agreed in March 2002. Both LAs and RSLs have had to refine their information and database systems in order to accommodate the definition, to record numbers of dwellings falling below this standard and track progress in the reduction of non-decent homes. We therefore have no data at LA or RSL level before 2001. But national estimates can be constructed from the EHCS

Data from LAs and RSLs are improving as they adjust their data collection and processing mechanisms to report on decent homes. The data provided by LAs each year now show a revised baseline, gross reduction in non-decent dwellings, decent dwellings, numbers prevented from becoming non-decent, numbers becoming non-decent, targets set for reduction, and nature and cost of works needed to deliver.

RSLs report on the number of non-decent dwellings annually. The Housing Corporation, along with the National Housing Federation, have completed a programme of work to examine the extent of the problem in the HA sector and to provide advice and good practice guidance on assessing, monitoring and ultimately achieving decent homes.

The data provided by the LAs and RSLs show broad consistency with the estimates from the English House Condition Survey. The EHCS is conducted annually, and acts as an independent check on the change in the numbers of non-decent stock each year, using the combined data from the last two years.

Data on private sector renewal have been revised to ensure LAs can provide detailed evidence of activity across a broad spectrum of support and in respect of targeting vulnerable households. The development and implementation of local authority strategies are being monitored and evaluated through ongoing research. Guidance was issued to local authorities in October 2003 on ways of monitoring their own progress in providing decent homes for vulnerable households.

PSA 8 – SR2004 PSA target

Lead the delivery of cleaner, safer, greener public spaces and improvement of the quality of the built environment in deprived areas and across the country, with measurable improvement by 2008.
(also contributes to Strategic Priority 1)

Milestone

Performance Indicator

Cleaner streets – By 2008, to reduce the proportion of local authorities judged to have unacceptable levels of litter and detritus by 13 percentage points nationally and by 16 percentage points for local authorities in receipt of Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF)

Safer streets – By 2008, to reduce the number of abandoned vehicles nationally by 25% and, within local authorities in receipt of NRF, by 25%

Quality of parks and green spaces – By 2008, to increase to 60% the proportion of local authorities nationally, and to 60% the proportion of local authority districts in receipt of NRF, that have at least one park or green space that meets Green Flag Award standard.

Local environmental services – By 2008, no more than 10% of local authorities nationally, or 10% of local authorities in receipt NRF, to be assessed as ‘poor’ for the Comprehensive Performance Assessment of their Environment Services Block.

Improving quality of neighbourhoods – By 2008, to reduce the percentage of households living in poor quality environments by 2 percentage points nationally,

and by 3 percentage points within the group of local authority areas in receipt of NRF.

Public satisfaction with parks and open space – By 2008, to increase percentage of residents satisfied with local parks and open spaces by four percentage points nationally, and by six percentage points overall for residents in local authorities in receipt of NRF.

Household satisfaction with local area – By 2008, to increase the percentage of households satisfied with places where they live by three percentage points nationally, and by five percentage points overall for households located within local authorities in receipt of NRF.

Progress

On course.

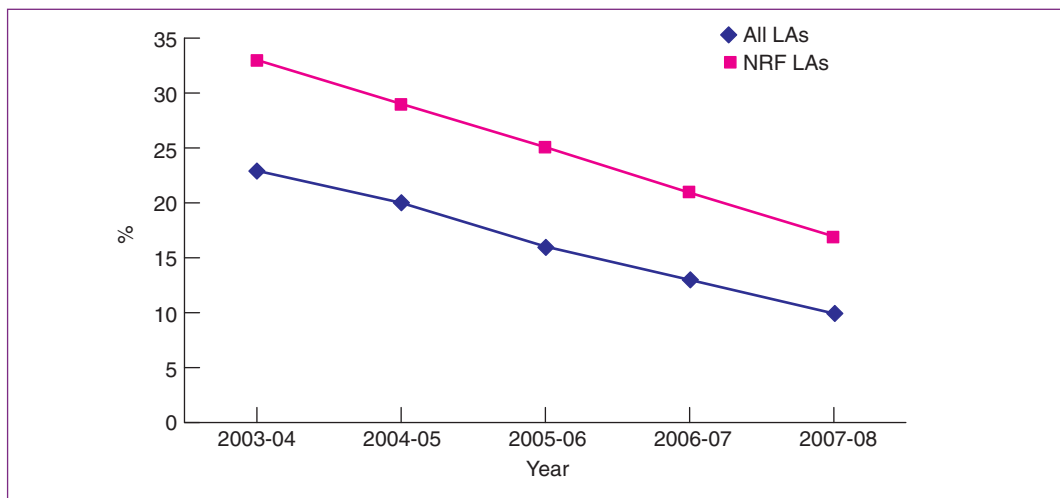
This is a challenging target, involving a range of workstreams and programmes within ODPM and across government. With the target in operation for only six months, it is too early to make an assessment against all elements, but progress to date is in line with expectations.

In view of the cross-cutting nature of the target, our strategy is to encourage, influence and support greater action to improve and sustain the quality of public space. Local authorities prioritise, organise and deliver the majority of services that impact on the quality of local environments, so their performance is crucial to the success of the target. Our strategy to ensure local authorities can meet these expectations is to

- promote join-up across government departments through the Cleaner, Safer, Greener Communities Programme to provide local authorities with the right powers and tools – Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
- Give local authorities greater flexibility to decide what action to take to meet local priorities for cleaner, safer, greener public spaces in return for delivering agreed national outcomes – roll-out of Safer, Stronger, Communities Fund and 2nd round of LAAs
- Create a climate of innovation and good practice to encourage greater take-up and use of new and existing powers and tools more effectively – roll-out of 'How To' programme and aligning with other good practice programmes in this area
- Ensure that our sponsored bodies such as CABA Space and others that we fund, such as Groundwork UK support delivery

1. Cleaner Streets

This indicator measures performance of local authority districts in street cleaning using the Best Value Performance Indicator (BVPI) 1999(a) based on assessment of levels of litter and detritus across a range of sites in local authority areas. Trajectory is set against 2003-04 audited data, reporting that 23% of local authorities nationally and 33% of local authorities in receipt of NRF have unacceptable levels of litter in excess of the national benchmark (30% of sites classed as being unacceptable).



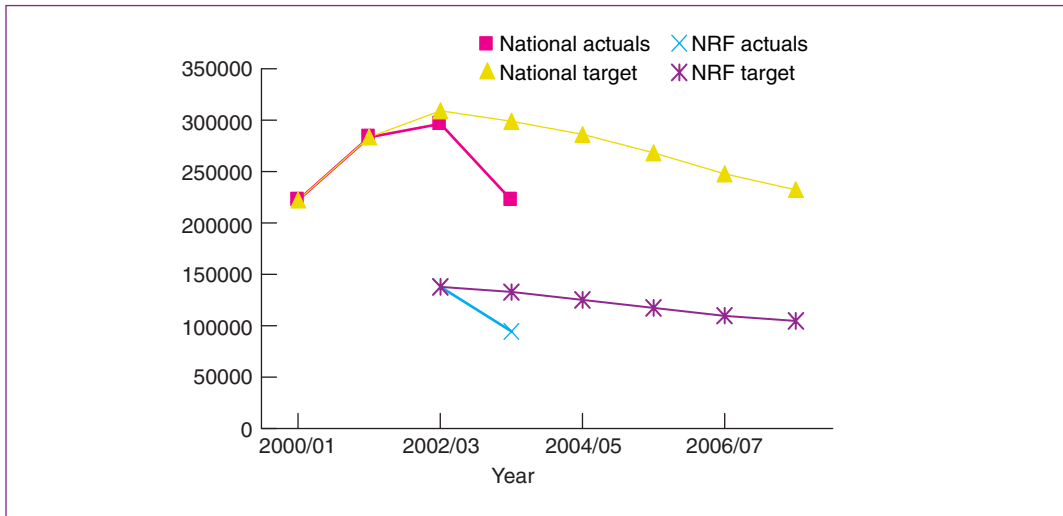
First assessment of progress against the trajectory will take place in December 2005 when BV199 (a) data for 2004/05 will be available. We are working closely with DEFRA, through the 'How To' programme, to support roll-out and dissemination of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, for example powers for Fixed Penalty Notices for litter offences, which will help keep places cleaner. And implementation of Gershon efficiency savings for local authority street cleansing services will also act as a lever for continuous service improvement.

2. Safer Streets

Waste Management Data Survey for 2003/04 reports that we have achieved the overall 25% required reduction in abandoned vehicles removed by local authorities nationally, and in local authorities in receipt of NRF. The success of the Cleaner, Safer, Greener National Nuisance Vehicle Strategy in helping to reduce numbers of vehicles being abandoned, greater speed of action by local authorities and rises in scrap metal prices are factors underlying the reduction.

Data from the WasteDataFlow survey for 2004/05 (due November 2005) will enable us to establish the emerging trend and review the degree of challenge for the remainder of the target period.

Abandoned vehicles

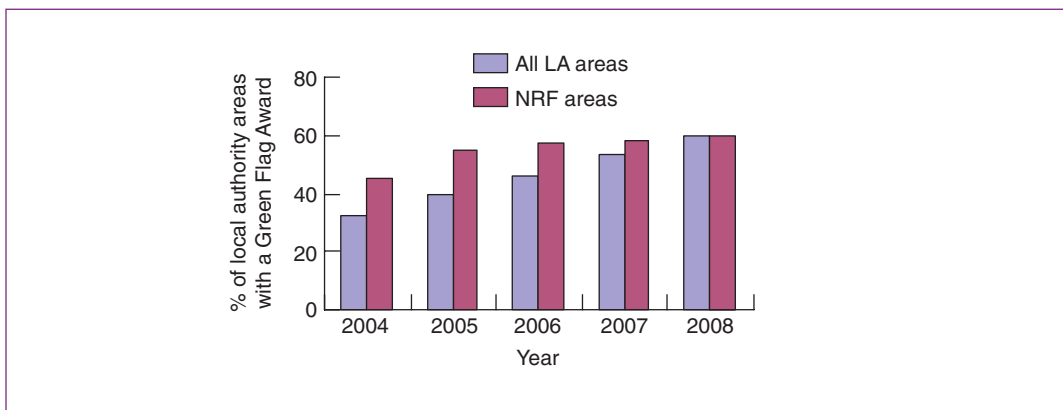


Looking forward, the ongoing delivery of the National Nuisance Vehicle Strategy – for example, DVLA targets to improve the accuracy of National Vehicle Records, implementation of the End of Life Vehicles (Producer Responsibility) Regulations 2005, requiring vehicle manufacturers to establish network of ‘take-back’ facilities from January 2006, with free take-back from January 2007 – will continue to address factors underlying the abandonment of vehicles.

3. Quality parks and green spaces

This indicator uses the Green Flag Award scheme, which is a proxy for a national standard in parks and green space quality. Latest data from 2005 scheme show progress in line with trajectory with 141 (40%) of local authorities nationally and 48 (55%) of local authority areas in receipt of NRF having at least one Green Flag Award-winning park or green space. Overall, the number of Green Flag Award-winning spaces in England stands at 309, an increase of 26%.

Green Flag winners projections



Green Flag Award Scheme is a voluntary scheme managed by the Civic Trust, who provide feedback and data on the operation of the scheme. We are using this knowledge to target and assist those local authorities failing to achieve the Award, and in encouraging others thinking about applying.

PPG17 encourages local planning authorities to adopt the principles of quality green space provision and to complete open space audits, and 85% of authorities have taken this forward. We are supporting the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) Space Advisory Scheme in working with the remainder, assisting them in creating quality green spaces by encouraging focussed, well-planned projects. CABE Space have also produced guidance on green space provision in Growth Areas and housing market renewal areas to highlight and encourage the inclusion of quality green space strategies within local delivery plans, and promote attainment of the Green Flag quality standard.

4. Local environmental services

Effective performance by local authorities in delivering services that promote liveability is crucial in determining people's experience and perceptions about the quality of the places where they live, but has not to date been adequately represented within the local authority performance management framework.

We have addressed this imbalance through the introduction of a range of Best Value Performance Indicators which will impact on how well local authorities are judged to be performing in delivering environmental services. And our target is that, by 2008, no more than 10% of local authorities will be assessed as "poor" by the Audit Commission Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) of Environment Services Block (ESB). Revision of CPA methodology, including the extension of ESB-type assessment to District Councils, means the target is absolute rather than improvement against trend.

We are also employing other levers to increase the priority local authorities attach to creating high-quality cleaner safer greener places and the effective service delivery required to maintain them. In particular we are:-

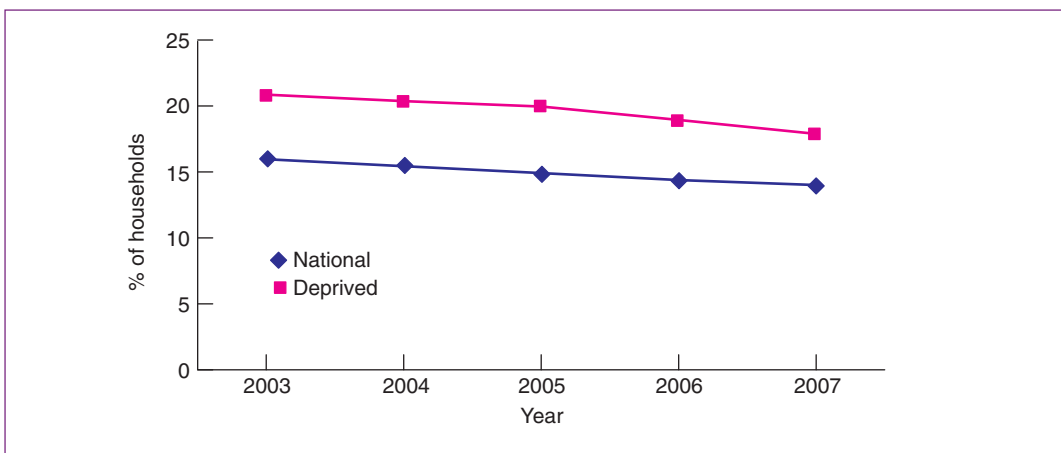
- encouraging local authorities and Local Strategic Partnerships to use development of Sustainable Community Strategies to give greater prominence to local priorities for improving and sustaining quality of public space;
- promoting the flexibility available through the Safer, Stronger, Communities Fund (SSCF) and Local Area Agreements (LAAs) to decide innovative solutions to meet public space priorities; and

- supporting local authorities and other practitioners through the ‘How To’ programme to take-up and use new and existing powers and tools and aligning with Defra and LGA good practice regimes

5. Improving the quality of neighbourhoods

English Housing Condition Survey 2003 reported that 16% (3.3m) of households nationally, and 21% (1.8m) of household in local authority areas in receipt of NRF experience at least one of a range of ‘liveability’ problems. Baseline and trajectory are set against the 2003 survey data.

Percentage of households living in poor quality environments – trajectory



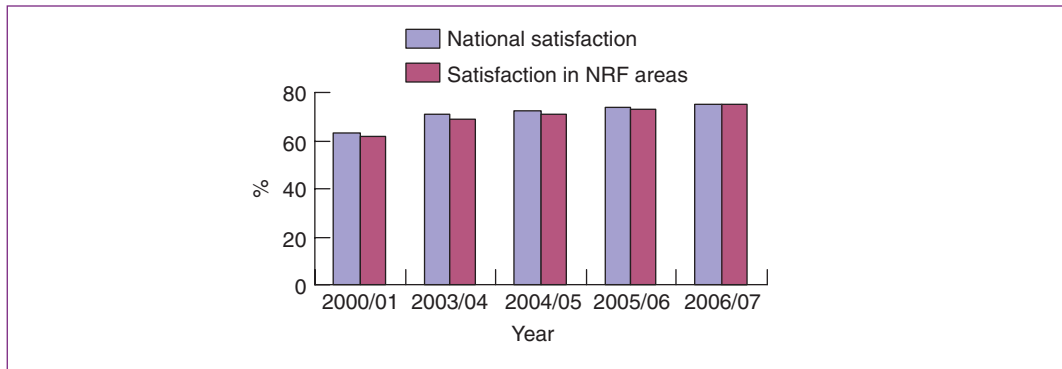
First assessment of progress against the trajectory will take place in December 2005 when EHCS 2004 data will be available. Delivering the improvements in effectiveness of local authority environmental services required to achieve other components of the target will also drive this indicator. Other main levers for improving quality of neighbourhoods is through the investment taking place to regenerate and renew our most deprived communities, enhance and modernise existing social housing stock and plan for new housing growth. And through measures such as delivery of Gershon and performance management framework we will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of social housing management.

6. Public satisfaction with local parks and open spaces

Public satisfaction with public services is a key strand of government policy, in terms of user focus as well as a benchmark for improvement in service delivery. This indicator tracks public satisfaction with local parks and open spaces in measured as part of the three-yearly resident satisfaction survey with local authority services. Trajectory is set against the baseline data from 2003/04 which reported that 71% of residents nationally and 69% in the local authority districts in receipt of NRF were

satisfied with local parks and open spaces – increases of eight percentage points nationally and seven percentage points in NRF districts since 2000/01.

Satisfaction with parks and open spaces



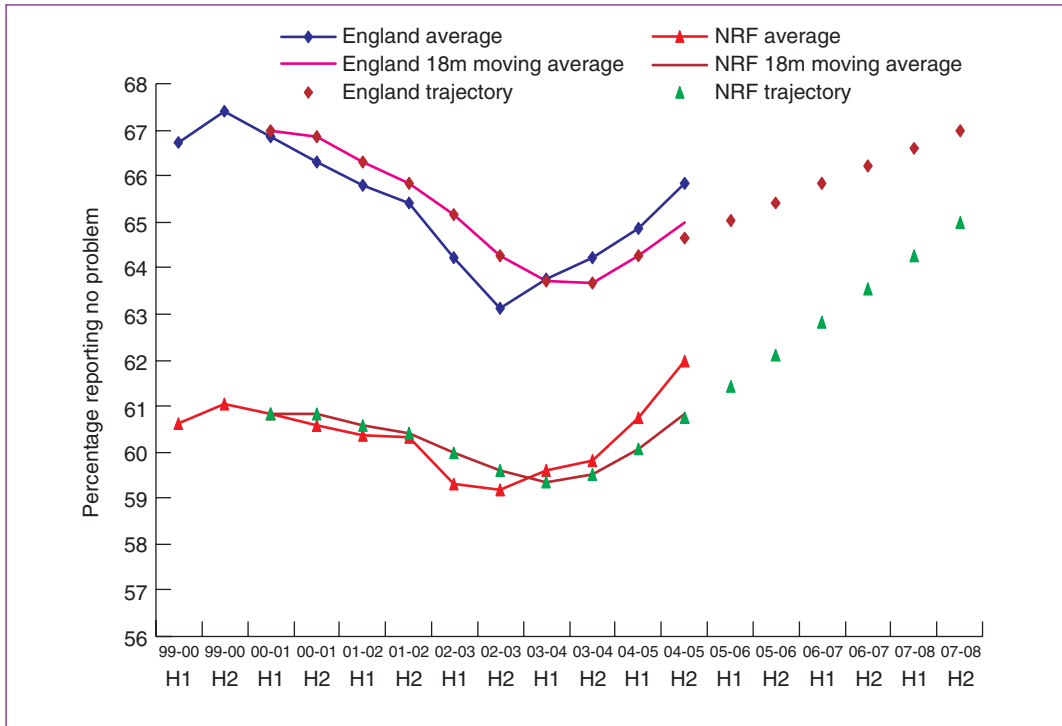
Progress against the target will be judged against the 2006/07 three-yearly resident satisfaction survey due to report in December 2007. However, the Annual Local Government Satisfaction (tracker) Survey introduced in Summer 2005 will include satisfaction with parks and open spaces, thereby providing intermediate data before 2007/8.

To achieve this target requires tangible improvements in quality of parks and green spaces but also engaging people and communities in their design, creation and use. We are working with a range of delivery partners to promote and facilitate community-led regeneration but also increase social useage through the provision of facilities and activities (formal and informal) that meet the needs of all members of the community. We are supporting this through the 'How To' programme which provides guidance on creating quality parks and green spaces through the sharing and spread of good practice amongst practitioners, but also captures and celebrate success to raise ambition and focus on what is possible.

7. Household satisfaction with local area

This indicator tracks household attitudes to a range of liveability problems in their areas measured by 6 factors within the Survey of English Housing (SEH). Latest SEH data for this indicator shows that the average of the 6 factors nationally and in NRF areas is line with the trajectory set against the 2003/04 baseline. These improvements in satisfaction with liveability are supported by recent findings by MORI.

Household satisfaction with neighbourhood: the average of six liveability factors



To achieve this target requires tangible improvements in quality of neighbourhoods, which will provide physical evidence of change but also help to create a positive atmosphere that action is taking place. Our strategies for neighbourhood renewal and Sustainable Communities are key levers that are bringing about this transformation and giving people decent places to live. But alongside substantial investment in the fabric of places we are also working to build cohesion and pride and remove mistrust and misunderstanding through involving and engaging communities in improving their local areas. We are also working with Home Office to change behaviour e.g. tackling Anti-Social Behaviour for example in supporting 'Together' campaign,

Quality of data systems

Indicator 1 BV199 (a) – statutory indicator measures the proportion of relevant land and highways (expressed as a percentage) with assessed litter & detritus that fall below an acceptable level. Data provided annually.

Indicator 2 – WasteDataFlow, which replaced the annual Municipal Waste Management Survey (MWMS) in 2004. The new system will improve the accuracy, timeliness and ease of data collection and reporting of abandoned vehicles. It will allow quarterly returns.

Indicator 3 – Green Flag Award Scheme operated by the Civic Trust, which provides data on applicants and winners. Data are available annually.

Indicator 4 – Local Authority Environment Services Block, as determined by the Audit Commission through its Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA). Full revised CPA methodology, including District Council CPA to be published in 2006.

Indicator 5 – English House Condition Survey (EHCS) assesses 16 ‘liveability’ problems including graffiti, litter and rubbish, on-street parking, vandalism, gardens and landscaping. Since April 2002 the EHCS has been undertaken on a continuous basis and results will now be available annually.

Indicator 6 – BV119 (e) – BV119 measures satisfaction with leisure and cultural services and part (e) measures satisfaction with parks and open spaces. Data are available every 3 years.

Indicator 7 – The Survey of English Housing (SEH) measures how satisfied households are with their local environment. Households surveyed are asked whether or not they consider a range of issues (vandalism & hooliganism, graffiti, dogs, litter & rubbish, noise and traffic) to be a problem in their local area. Data are available every 6 months.

ODPM Efficiency Programme

The Spending Review 2004 (SR04) set ODPM a target to achieve £622 million in annual efficiency gains by 2007-08. At least two thirds of these must be cash-releasing. This includes efficiency gains in social housing procurement by Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) but not by local authorities, except Fire and Rescue Authorities. Those local authority gains are part of the separate local government target to achieve at least £6.45 billion efficiency gains, to which Fire and Rescue Authorities' efficiency gains will also contribute. For implementation and monitoring purposes, however, the social housing sector will be treated as a whole, aggregating those elements falling within the ODPM central target and the ODPM local government target. A target of efficiency gains of £835m by 2007-08 has been set for aggregate social housing procurement.

ODPM Central Target

- **We are required to deliver £622 million in annual efficiency gains by 2007/08, of which at least two thirds must be cash releasing.**
- **In addition, the Spending Review agreed that ODPM should be on course to have relocated 240 posts out of London Headquarters by the end of 2007/08 and to have made progress in relation to its key sponsored bodies.**
- **ODPM as a whole (including agencies and NDPBs) is required to achieve a reduction of 400 posts in its overall staffing by March 2008. At least 250 of these will be from Headquarters and Government Office civil service posts.**

Milestone

As part of its programme of efficiencies, ODPM plans, by 2007/08, to

- Achieve savings in administration costs of £25m, including the rationalisation of back office functions;

- Deliver efficiency gains in Regional Development Agencies (RDAs) of £120m;
- Improve social housing procurement methods by introducing new partnering arrangements, achieving efficiencies of £160m in the delivery of new social housing;
- Realise efficiencies of £195m in the Registered Social Landlord (RSL) sector on capital works, management and maintenance and commodities;
- Continue the modernisation of the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) to further increase the efficiency of the service, including its delivering of £105m gross cashable efficiency savings, and improve its effectiveness so that it saves more lives;
- Deliver savings of £10m on sustainability work associated with existing FRS radio schemes; and national wide area radio system
- Add contingency to the efficiency programme to reduce the level of homelessness and households living in temporary accommodation to achieve efficiency savings of £66m.

Performance Indicator

The various approaches of how each efficiency workstream will measure and track progress in delivering their proposed gains, including accompanying performance indicators, is set out in detail in the ODPM Central Efficiency Technical Note (ETN) which can be found on the 'Objectives and Performance' section of the ODPM website at: <http://www.odpm.gov.uk/about>

Progress

On course.

ODPM is confident it will achieve its efficiency targets. The efficiency savings are planned to be delivered over the next three years and we are on track to deliver them. Recent performance in workstream areas reinforces our confidence. For example:

- RDAs: efficiency plans for achieving savings of £139.5m (£120m for ODPM) by 2007/08, were submitted on 25 April 2005 and have been signed off by the Department of Trade and Industry and the Office of Government Commerce;

- New Supply: Housing Corporation strategy for investment partnering for new affordable housing was launched in August 2005. We are on track to exceed the target of £130m for 2005/6 for new supply (savings to be realised on practical completion of construction).
- RSL Capital Works: a national change agent is now in place to establish network of local procurement consortia to maximise efficiencies throughout the supply chain. £33m Efficiency Challenge Fund has been launched to facilitate consortia set-up (5 consortia have already won funding).
- RSL Management and Maintenance: ODPM commissioned a review of 'systems thinking'. Results of pilots testing its application to social housing are encouraging, and the report was launched in September 2005. Audit Commission have been commissioned to identify and disseminate innovation and good practice in management and maintenance and will be publishing a series of "efficiency packs" in November 2005 and January 2006
- RSL Procurement of Commodities: a national collective agent, Procurement for Housing (PfH) was launched last year offering savings through joint procurement of commodity goods and services (telecoms, gas, office supplies etc). It has achieved well over 60% coverage of the RSL sector.
- Fire and Rescue Services: Integrated Risk Management Planning is now firmly embedded in all FRAs. The Audit Commission's Fire CPA reports were published on 28 July 2005. CPA improvement planning now under way and providing major opportunity to reinforce efficiency messages and share good practice. Consultation on Annual Efficiency Statements closed on 5 October 2005, subject to which FRAs' first reports should be made on 17 November 2005.
- Firelink Operational Continuity: 99% of all Phase 1 high-risk replacement work is now complete. As a result of negotiations the work has been completed for £1.5m less than budget.
- Homelessness (added to efficiency programme as a contingency): 2005/06 grant allocations have been made to local authorities and other agencies, linking funding more strongly to performance in tackling homelessness. ODPM is implementing a new homelessness strategy – "*Sustainable Communities – settled homes; changing lives*" – which includes a commitment to halve the number of households in expensive and insecure temporary accommodation by 2010. National statistics confirm that there have been sustained reductions in new cases of homelessness since the start of 2004 and show no further increase in the number of households in

temporary accommodation since September 2004. These positive changes have occurred a year ahead of ODPM's projections.

- Administration: our corporate modernisation programme includes projects on shared HR services with HM Treasury and Cabinet Office, the outsourcing of IT, rationalisation of ODPM accommodation and an end-to-end review of finance.
- Headcount: overall, ODPM reported a reduction of 90 full-time equivalents between June 2004 and the end of the financial year 2004/05. 23 of these were in ODPM central.
- Relocation: ODPM (C) has relocated 103 of the agreed 240 posts (43%). English Partnerships, Housing Corporation and the Audit Commission have submitted their relocation proposals to Ministers. On current planning assumptions, 162 posts have been identified as suitable for relocation outside of London Headquarters by 2007/08, of which 70 posts have already been moved.

In line with expectations and trajectories, main efficiency gains are anticipated in 2005/06 and 2006/07.

Quality of data systems

The methodology for measuring our proposed efficiency gains, including an assessment of the quality of data and accompanying validation procedures which are specific to each individual workstream, is set out in detail in the ODPM Central Efficiency Technical Note (ETN) which can be found on the 'Objectives and Performance' section of the ODPM website at: <http://www.odpm.gov.uk/about>

SR04 Public Service Agreement targets

| Previous SR02 target | SR04 target |
|--|---|
| <p>PSA 1 – Neighbourhood renewal Promote better policy integration nationally, regionally and locally; in particular to work with departments to help them meet their PSA floor targets for neighbourhood renewal and social inclusion.</p> | <p>PSA 1 – Neighbourhood Renewal Tackle social exclusion and deliver neighbourhood renewal, working with departments to help them meet their PSA floor targets, in particular narrowing the gap in health, education, crime, worklessness, housing and liveability outcomes between the most deprived areas and the rest of England, with measurable improvement by 2010.</p> |
| <p>PSA 2 – Regional economic performance Make sustainable improvements in the economic performance of all English regions and over the long term reduce the persistent gap in growth rates between the regions, defining measures to improve performance and reporting progress against these measures by 2006.</p> | <p>PSA 2 – Regional economic performance Make sustainable improvements in the economic performance of all the English regions by 2008 and over the long term reduce the persistent gap in growth rates between the regions, demonstrating progress by 2006, (shared with the Department of trade and industry and HM Treasury), including by establishing elected regional assemblies in regions which vote in a referendum to have one.</p> |
| <p>PSA 3 – Elected regional assemblies Provide the opportunity by the end of this Parliament for a referendum on regional government in regions where there is a demand for it.</p> | <p>PSA 3 – ERAs See PSA2.</p> |
| <p>PSA 4 – Local government performance Improve delivery and value for money of local services by: introducing comprehensive performance assessments and action plans, and securing a progressive improvement in authorities' scores; overall annual improvements in cost effectiveness of two per cent or more; assisting local government</p> | <p>PSA 4 – local government By 2008, improve the effectiveness and efficiency of local government in leading and delivering services to all communities.</p> |

to achieve 100 per cent capability in electronic delivery of priority services by 2005, in ways that customers will use.

PSA 5 – Housing markets

Achieve a better balance between housing availability and the demand for housing in all English regions while protecting valuable countryside around our towns, cities and in the greenbelt and the sustainability of existing towns and cities through specific measures to be set out in the Service Delivery Agreement (SDA).

PSA 5 – Housing markets

Achieve a better balance between housing availability and the demand for housing, including improving affordability, in all English regions while protecting valuable countryside around our towns, cities and in the green belt and the sustainability of towns and cities.

PSA 6 – Planning

All local planning authorities to complete local development frameworks by 2006 and to perform at or above Best Value targets for development control by 2006 with interim milestones to be agreed in the Service Delivery Agreement. ODPM to deal with called-in cases and recovered appeals in accordance with statutory targets.

PSA 6 – Planning

The planning system to deliver sustainable development outcomes at national, regional and local levels through efficient and high quality planning and development management processes, including through achievement of best value standards for planning by 2008.

PSA 7 – Decent homes

By 2010, bring all social housing into decent condition with most of this improvement taking place in deprived areas, and increase the proportion of private housing in decent condition occupied by vulnerable groups.

PSA 7 Decent Homes

By 2010, bring all social housing into a decent condition with most of this improvement taking place in deprived areas, and for vulnerable households in the private sector, including families with children, increase the proportion who live in homes that are in decent condition.

Fire SDA targets

To reduce the number of accidental fire related deaths in the home by 20% averaged over the eleven year period to March 2010 compared with the average recorded in the five year period to March 1999 – with a floor element that no local authority fire brigade will have a fatality rate more than 1.25 times the national average by March 2010. To reduce by 10% the number of deliberate fires by 31 March 2010 from the 2001/02 baseline figure.

PSA 3 Fire

By 2010, reduce the number of accidental fire-related deaths in the home by 20% and the number of deliberate fires by 10%.

Liveability
N/applic

PSA8 Liveability

Lead the delivery of cleaner, safer, greener public spaces, and improvement of the quality of the built environment in deprived areas and across the country, with measurable improvement by 2008.

ODPM's aim, strategic priorities and performance targets set in SR2004

Our Strategic Priorities

To deliver our aim of creating sustainable communities the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister identified five strategic priorities. The five year plans provide the strategic framework for the delivery of these priorities and are underpinned by our Public Service Agreement (PSA). ODPM's five strategic priorities, our Public Service Agreement Targets, and the relationship between them, are shown in the next two tables:

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-------------|
| Priority 1 | Tackling disadvantage by reviving the most deprived neighbourhoods, reducing social exclusion and supporting society's most vulnerable groups. | PSA 1,3,7,8 |
| Priority 2 | Promoting the development of the English regions by improving their economic performance so that all are able to reach their full potential, and developing an effective framework for regional governance taking account of the public's view of what is best for their area. | PSA 2,5,6 |
| Priority 3 | Delivering better services , by devolving decision-making to the most effective level – regional, local or neighbourhood: Promoting high quality, customer-focused local services and ensuring adequate, stable resources are available to local government. Clarifying the roles and functions of local government, its relationship with central and | PSA 1,3,4,6 |

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| | regional government and the arrangements for neighbourhood engagement, in the context of a shared strategy for local government. | |
| Priority 4 | Delivering a better balance between housing supply and demand by supporting sustainable growth, reviving markets and tackling abandonment. | PSA 4,5,6 |
| Priority 5 | Ensuring people have decent places to live by improving the quality and sustainability of local environments and neighbourhoods, reviving brownfield land, and improving the quality of housing. | PSA 1,3,4,5,7,8 |

Links between goals, PSAs and priorities

HOW OUR HIGH-LEVEL GOALS, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND PSA TARGETS FIT TOGETHER

| High-Level Goals | PSAs | Strategic Priority |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Extending home ownership; quality and choice for those who rent; ensuring mixed, sustainable communities based on public and private investment | Housing Markets (PSA5) Decent Homes (PSA7) Planning (PSA6) | Delivering better supply in housing Decent places to live |
| 2. Towns and cities world class for their economic and social life; more power for neighbourhoods to decide things that matter to them | Regional Economic (PSA2) Liveability (PSA8) Neighbourhood renewal (PSA1) | Decent places to live |
| 3. High quality public services for all, shaped by individuals and communities to meet their needs, delivering value for money and visible results | Local Government (PSA4) Fire Modernisation (PSA3) Planning (PSA6) | Delivering Better services |
| 4. Communities – especially the most disadvantaged – connected to economic activity and social opportunity | Neighbourhood Renewal (PSA1) Liveability (PSA8) Regional Economic (PSA2) | Tackling disadvantage |

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| 5. Inclusive communities that are bound together by values of decency and mutual respect | Liveability (PSA8) Neighbourhood Renewal (PSA1) | Tackling Disadvantage |
|--|--|-----------------------|

Critical projects

| | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 6. Improving regional arrangements to maximise the effectiveness of planning and investment at this level | Regional Economic (PSA2) Planning (PSA6) | Promoting English regions |
| 7. Supporting robust local government finance; securing a strategic role for local government | Local Government (PSA4) | Delivering Better services |
| 8. Modernisation of the fire and rescue service | Fire (PSA3) | Delivering Better services |
| 9. Delivering the Thames Gateway programme as a cross-Government project | Housing Markets (PSA5) Planning (PSA6) | Delivering Better Supply in Housing |

Cross-government priorities

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| 10. Managing ODPM's contribution to delivering the Olympics | Regional Economic (PSA2) Housing Markets (PSA5) | Promoting English Regions |
| 11. Tackling disadvantage and social exclusion | Neighbourhood Renewal (PSA1) | Tackling Disadvantage |



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