

Deadline for return – 18 August 2009 (Quarter 1 Performance Report)

Local Area Agreement 2008-2011

LAA Priority: Reduce the gap in benefit claims rates and employment rates between priority communities and the average for Devon (LAA24)

Lead Contact: Janet Sinclair/Liz Wood

RAG Status: Red Amber Green (delete as appropriate)
Red for local indicator Ni 153
Amber/ Green for national indicator Ni 146

Delivery Board Recommendations (*Please list any decisions/actions required on the part of the Delivery Board*)

Delivery Board are asked to:

- Support the implementation of the Houghton Report within the organisations they represent, specifically around expanding employment, work experience apprenticeship and training opportunities for the long term unemployed priority customers.
- Encourage LAs and public sector organisations, as the largest employers to advertise their vacancies through JCP thereby opening up these opportunities to unemployed people.
- Embed this practise through supply chains
- Encourage large employers, LAs and public sector organizations to advertise their vacancies with JCP opening up these opportunities through Local Employment Partnerships to unemployed priority customers.
- Encourage District Councils to follow the good practise of Devon County Council and run workshops to advise interested customers of the councils recruitment system.

Summary Statement:

No more than 350 words summarising RAG status – performance overall against delivery plan, performance against National and Local indicators and detail of action taken to address underperformance (if relevant)

Performance on the Ni 153 target is clearly affected by the economic downturn, between November 2008 and July 2009 the Jobcentre has worked with 46 employers who have made between 3 and 400 people redundant – a total of approximately 1800 job losses in Devon.

JSA Unemployment rates in the DCC area, including the priority communities, have more than doubled between since July 2008 [4967] and July 2009 [10,387]. During this same period vacancies notified to JCP reached a low of 1287 In January 2009, almost half the number in January 2008, 2,389 but have recovered and at 4181 for July 09 are now higher than in July 2008 [3980].

The movement of people off the unemployment register also reflects this positive trend, 1448 in July 08, increasing to 2994 in July 09. However, the % and number of people that are long term unemployed on JSA continues to rise month on month. The number claiming JSA over 6 months in July 08 was 825 [16.6%] but this figure has risen to 2550 by July 09 [24.5%], the number claiming JSA over 12 months was 300 in July 08 [6.0%] but this figure has risen to 570 in July 09 [5.5%]

The data at LSOA level and for Incapacity benefit [IB] and Employment and Support Allowance [ESA] is only available to August 2008. Because of the time delay it still reflects the period before the impact of the economic downturn and does not give us reliable information on the current status.

{Working Age Client Group data is not available for November 2008. Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims from 27th October 2008. The introduction of ESA has affected the client group series and work is currently in progress to embed ESA into the Working Age Client Group. National totals can be found in Table 1.1 of the Statistical Summary May 2009 publication at the link

http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/statistical_summaries.asp. The decision to suspend the Working Age Client Group series was only made recently.]

There is a wide range of new and enhanced mainstream provision to help U/E customers and a continued focus from national government on support for the most disadvantaged long-term unemployed people. ESF provision, mental health commissioning, Enhanced Housing Options and support from other partners all have a clear focus to bolster support for our priority customers in the priority communities of Devon.

In the current economic climate the importance of partnership work and a multi agency approach to support NI 153 and Ni 146 cannot be overstated. The Devon Worklessness Group and Ni 146 Group brings together key agencies at bi-monthly meetings to work together and find solutions to the wide range of barriers that prevent people moving into work.

NI 146 target.

The baseline for this target has not yet been set but will be established later in 2009. The NI 146 target for 2010/11 will be for a statistically significant improvement, calculated in accordance with the Target Negotiation Brief on the date for 2008/09.

Based on clerical data from the Community teams the current No of People with a Learning Disability in work is around 7% based on a doubling up of first 6month's performance.

Performance Indicators – National and Local								
Code	Title	+/- (see 1 below)	Year	Annual Target	Status (see 2 below)	Improvement (see 3 below)	Actual to Date	Officer Notes
NI 146	Adults with learning disabilities in employment		FY 2008-09	Baseline for LA	Data not due		n/a	The final target will be confirmed when the data for 08/09 is available.
LAA 24a	Working age out of work benefit claim rate in the 13 priority communities identified in the Devon Economic Strategy		FY 2008-09		Data not entered			Subject to final agreement on LSOAs for inclusion

Key to symbols (insert as appropriate):

1. + equals higher figures are better and – equals lower figures are better
2. **No Data/Well Below Target/Below Target/On Target/Above Target/Well Above Target**
3. Improved Performance ↑ Worse Performance ↓ Unchanged ↔

Key Milestones (Last Quarter – Quarter 1 09/10, ends 30 June 09)

	Description	Date	Outputs expected	Achieved/missed
1.	<p>Devon Worklessness {WLN} Group – Ni 153</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •]Develop employment opportunities through joint work with Enhanced Housing Options in priority communities • Work with PCT to develop adult mental health services for priority customers in priority communities • Spread good practise • Work with DCC and District Council to implement recommendations in the Houghton report and spread best practise from other Las. • Improve communications with LA and exploit joint working opportunities between LAA Themes • Research the issues with key partners to support the Travelling Community into work. • Enhanced support for jobs for priority customers in priority wards 	<p>Meeting to establish pan Devon process 07/09/09</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>July</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>To join up accommodation and employment opportunities and Housing report on progress to WLN group Ian Pearson runs a Mental Health Employment Support Group which reports to Devon WLN</p> <p>Examples of positive activity are introduced pan-Devon Develop projects that work</p> <p>Target appropriate support</p> <p>Informal bespoke outreach support for new Argos store, 19/08/09 and 24/08/09 in Barnstaple</p>	<p>Osborne Hotel model of training to work spread: West Devon Connect model of access to services spread to Torridge and Teignbridge.</p> <p>DCC application workshops suggested as good practise</p> <p>Plan of action</p>

	NI 146			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NI 146 presents 2 papers to the LD Partnership Board and proposed change to brokerage service. 	July 09	LD Partnership committed to the NI 146 agenda	LD Partnership agreed ' the expectation of employment for all in 18-30 age group. Brokerage paper to be presented again at next partnership meeting.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointment of project worker to prepare for 'Project Search'. 	August 09	Prepare Devon bid for Project Search pilot	Ann O'Bryan and Carol Robinson
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put in partnership bid for PSA16 money to support Ni146 	July 09	Remove key barrier to work	

Key Milestones (This Quarter – Quarter 2 09/10, ends 30 September 09)

	Plan themed workshops. [Y/P, Offender Group]	Date YP workshop planned for 30/09/09. Offender Group at early planning stage	Outputs expected To allocate time for partners to identify issues. Agencies take lead and report back actions agreed to WLN Group
	Implement recommendations in the Houghton report and spread best practise from other Las.	Ongoing	Assessment against the LA Strategic Framework
	Develop a plan with key partners to support the Travelling Community into work.	Multi agency surgery on 13/10/09 leading to enhanced access to training to move into work. Enterprise Fair Spring 2010	
	Plan Employment, Advice and Training events in Devon		Multi agency events to support unemployed.
	Work on an outcome focussed Employment strategy for people with Learning Disability	September 09	Targeted strategy to deliver job F/T outcomes
	Support bid for Project Search Pilot in Devon	Mid October 09	Develop a pathway to work for special school via internship with Large public organisation
	JCP to use flexibilities within the Local Employment	End of 2009	2 LD customers enter F/T work. Expand to look at opportunities in

	Partnership recruitment process to employ 2 LD customers.		DWP. The recruitment process acts as a guideline for other public sector organisations.
	Deliver a Devon and Cornwall wide 'Valued in Public' event.	2 events 24/11/09 and 21/04/10 with regional support	Gain commitment of large public sector organisations

Key Risks (*Please refer to scoring guidelines below)

Risk	Impact	Likelihood	Score	Mitigation
1. Continued economic downturn increasing the numbers of long term unemployed people.	High	High		Working with public sector as the largest employers to open up their job opportunities to priority customers.
2. Seasonal vacancies are mitigating the worst impact of the recession	High	High		

Spatial Implications

District	Impact (insert √ or x or unknown)	Disaggregated Data (√ or x)	Examples of Local Delivery Outcomes
Exeter			Exeter Positive Steps Group is taking forward community engagement in priority communities to support worklessness agenda.
East Devon			
Mid Devon			
North Devon			Transform leads on community engagement in Ilfracombe . NDH is piloting a number of community initiatives in Barnstaple
Torridge			Torridge Connect is in embryonic stages but has 2 community events planned in July
West Devon			West Devon Connect leads on community engagement and access to services.
South Hams			
Teignbridge			Launch of Teignbridge Connect

***Risks – Scoring Guidelines:**

Likelihood of risk:

- 1 – Very low
- 2 – Low

- 3 – Medium
- 4 – High
- 5 – Very high

Impact of risk:

- 1 – Insignificant
- 2 – Minor
- 3 – Moderate
- 4 – Serious
- 5 – Very serious

Total risk score (likelihood x impact)

- 1 – 6 Low**
- 8 – 12 Medium**
- 14 – 20 High**
- Over 20 Very high**