

Meeting: Enterprise Board

Date: 5 May 2009

Report Title: Performance Management Exception Report – Fourth Quarter 2008/09

Report of: Karen Galey – Head of Economic Regeneration

Purpose

To provide an update on the key enterprise related LAA performance highlights from the fourth quarter of 2008/09.

Summary

The key performance highlights are in relation to National Indicator (NI) 153, NI 117 and the Job Seekers Allowance component of the Stretch Target to support 230 people from the 12 most deprived wards into sustained employment.

Performance in relation to the Incapacity Benefit Stretch Target remains a concern. We are attempting to renegotiate this target with CLG.

Legal/Financial Implications

N/A.

Recommendations

That the report is noted.

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Introduction

This report provides highlight information in relation to the indicators included in the Enterprise Theme Board's performance scorecard. The scorecard contains all the relevant indicators included in Haringey's Local Area Agreement (LAA) NIs, Stretch Targets and Local Indicators.

The key highlights from this quarter's scorecard are performance in relation to NI 153 (Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods) NI 117 (16 to 18 years olds Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs)) and the Stretch Target related to the number of people from the worst twelve worst helped into sustained employment.

In the year August 2008, the out of work benefits claim rate in the worst performing neighbourhoods was 26.4 per cent, down 2 percentage points from the baseline figure of 28.4 per cent. However, despite this encouraging performance it should be noted that there is a significant time lag associated with the data. The claimant count, a more timely data source, increased by 21.5 per cent between May 2008 and January 2009 and we expect this trajectory to eventually be reflected in the out of work benefits claim rate.

The proportion of NEETs in Haringey is currently 6.5 per cent. Current performance is below the 2008/09 target of 11.0 per cent and the 2010 stretch target level of 10.4 per cent. It should be noted that the proportion of NEETs whose status is unknown is 7.3 per cent, below the target of 9.9 per cent. Meeting the unknowns target is necessary to validate the achievement of the overall NEETs target.

In quarters 1 to 4, it is forecast that 70 people (long-term Job Seekers Allowance claimants and lone parents) from the 12 target wards were supported into sustained employment. The 60 per cent threshold, in terms of the Job Seekers Allowance component, upon which reward grant is payable has already been met.

Exception commentary

Performance in relation to the Incapacity Benefit (IB) Stretch Target remains a concern with nine sustained jobs reported in quarters 1 to 4 (including unverified data for quarter 4). Since April 2007, 18 long-term IB claimants have been supported into sustained employment against a target of 180. Achieving this Stretch Target remains a significant challenge and we are attempting to renegotiate this target with CLG. As part of this we are exploring with Reed in Partnership how we can work together to support more IB claimants into sustained employment. We are also now operating and taking referrals from Job Centre Plus, as well as seven GP surgeries, which will help to improve performance.

It is important to note that the work in place to deliver the IB Stretch Target is in addition to Pathways to Work, delivered in Haringey by Reed in Partnership. While Pathways, at present, focuses on shorter term IB claimants our work is additional and is to support longer term claimants who will have more significant barriers to employment. It will therefore take longer to support these people into employment. Moreover, other London boroughs with a similar target, including Bromley and Islington, are also facing these challenges.

126 (includes unverified data for quarter 4) Better Off Calculations (BOCs) with Haringey Guarantee participants have been completed against an overall target of 400. There have been issues with the installation of the better off calculation software and training providers, which have now been resolved. Although the target of 400 has not been met, the infrastructure is now in place to ensure that significantly better performance will be achieved in 2009/10.

Appendices

Appendix 1 -Scorecard