

*Template for a Local PSA. August 2001. (Numbered notes at the end)*

**LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
WIRRAL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL AND  
THE GOVERNMENT**

**Introduction**

1. Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council and the Government have made this Local Public Service Agreement (Local PSA) with the intention of further improving the services to local people that Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council provides. This agreement covers the period *1<sup>st</sup> October 2003 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006 (with the exception of Targets 7 & 8 which will end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007)*.
2. The agreement records the present intentions of the Council and the Government. It is entered into by both in good faith, but it is expressly recognised that neither can fetter the future discretion of the Council or of Ministers and Parliament. The agreement is therefore not intended to create legal relations. Subject to that, the following points are agreed.

**The Intentions of Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council**

3. Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council will use its best endeavours to achieve more demanding performance targets than those it would be expected to achieve in the absence of this Local Public Service Agreement. These enhanced targets are specified in Schedule 1 to this agreement.

**The Intentions of the Government**

4. The intentions of the Government set out in this agreement are subject to the outcome of any statutory consultations and any necessary approval of the Treasury and Parliament.
5. The Government will implement the changes to statutory and administrative requirements set out in Schedule 2 to this agreement, subject to confirmation of the legal and operational feasibility of the changes described and to Parliamentary approval of any necessary legislation. The Government will also undertake the discussions with the Council described in Schedule 2.
6. It is recognised by Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council that, on further investigation, it may be necessary to modify the detail of the changes set out in Schedule 2 in ways that seek so far as possible, to give substantially the same extent of benefit to the Council. It is recognised by the Government that, if a change set out in Schedule 2 proves infeasible, it will use its best endeavours to provide an alternative that corresponds as closely as possible and has, so far as possible, substantially the same effect.
7. The Government will pay Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council a grant of £1,062,219 in 2003/04 in support of the expenditures described in Schedule 3 to this agreement. The conditions attached to this "pump-priming" grant are also set out in Schedule 3.

8. The Government will pay a performance reward grant to Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council, as set out in Schedule 4 to this agreement, if it achieves all the enhanced targets (“performance target with Local PSA”) specified in Schedule 1. Schedule 4 also sets out the grant it intends to pay if the Council secures a substantial improvement in performance that falls short of the target. The Schedule also stipulates the intended timing of payments of the grant. Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council undertakes to provide audited information confirming the extent of improvement in their performance relative to the Local PSA performance targets set out in Schedule 1, as a precondition for the determination and payment of the performance reward grant.

Date of Agreement: *[date signed[5]]*

**For Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council[6]      For Her Majesty's Government[7]**

.....  
*Stephen Foulkes*  
Leader of the Council

.....  
*[name] MP*  
Minister of State, Department for Transport,  
Local Government and the Regions

.....  
*Stephen Maddox*  
Chief Executive

.....  
*[name] MP*  
Chief Secretary to Her Majesty's Treasury

The above ministers sign on behalf of their colleagues listed below [8] :

*[name] MP, Secretary of State for [title]*

etc

**SCHEDULE 1: PERFORMANCE TARGETS****Summary table**

<b>Target</b>	<b>Heading [9]</b>	<b>National target number [10] (or "Local target")</b>
<b>1</b>	Raise standards in English, maths, ICT and science in secondary education at Key Stage 3	<b>National Target 2</b>
<b>2</b>	Raise standards in English and Maths at Key Stage 2	<b>National Target 1</b>
<b>3</b>	Attendance of pupils during the last two years of statutory education	<b>Local</b>
<b>4</b>	Improve the quality of life and independence of older people so that they can live at home wherever possible	<b>National Target 5</b>
<b>5</b>	Increase the percentage of looked after children who, on leaving education, meet or exceed their predicted Key Stage 3 attainment	<b>Local</b>
<b>6</b>	By 2010, reduce inequalities in health outcomes by 10% as measured by life expectancy at birth	<b>National Target 12</b>
<b>7</b>	Halt the deterioration in the condition of local roads by 2004 and improve the repudiation of third party liability claims re. Roads and pavements	<b>National Target</b>
<b>8</b>	Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured and increase traffic signal facilities for disabled people	<b>Local</b>
<b>9</b>	E-Government - To speed up the delivery of electronic transactions and improve customer access to services through One Stop Shops and Information Points	<b>Local</b>
<b>10</b>	Cost Effectiveness	<b>National Target 14</b>
<b>11</b>	Reduce Domestic Burglary	<b>National Target 20</b>
<b>12</b>	To secure visible improvement to the local environmental cleanliness in the Borough	<b>Local</b>
<b>R1</b>	Ensure that 70% of new development and 90% of capital build projects in regeneration areas will be on Brown-field land	<b>Local (RESERVE)</b>
<b>R2</b>	To reduce overall levels of worklessness in the Borough	<b>Local (RESERVE)</b>

**TARGET 1****Heading**

Raise standards in English, Maths, ICT and science in secondary education so that:

- by 2004 75% of 14 year olds achieve level 5 or above in English, Maths and ICT (70% in science) nationally, and by 2007 85% (80% in science).

**Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured**

BVPI 181a (English), 181b (Maths), 181c (Science), 181d (ICT)

**Current Performance – 2002**

Key Stage 3 – Maths	67%
Key Stage 3 – English	71%
Key Stage 3 – ICT	75%
Key Stage 3 – Science	66%

**Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (Summer 2006)**

Performance expected without the Local PSA – *these are the EDP targets \**

Key Stage 3 – Maths	80%
Key Stage 3 – English	80%
Key Stage 3 – ICT	85%
Key Stage 3 – Science	75%

Performance target with the Local PSA (*expectation is to exceed the EDP aspirational 2004 targets*)

Key Stage 3 – Maths	up to 81%
Key Stage 3 – English	up to 81%
Key Stage 3 – ICT	up to 86%
Key Stage 3 – Science	up to 76%

**Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA**

Key Stage 3 – Maths	up to 1%
Key Stage 3 – English	up to 1%
Key Stage 3 – ICT	up to 1%
Key Stage 3 – Science	up to 1%

**Interim performance target**

None

**Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target [18]**

Use of average point scores instead of levels to measure uplift.

**TARGET 2****Heading**

Raise standards in English and Maths so that:

- By 2004 85% of 11 year olds achieve level 4 or above

**Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured**

BVPI 40	% 11 year olds achieving Level 4 or above in Maths
BVPI 41	% 11 year olds achieving Level 4 or above in English

**Current performance - 2002**

BVPI 40	% 11 year olds achieving Level 4 or above in Maths	74.1%
BVPI 41	% 11 year olds achieving Level 4 or above in English	77.2%

**Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (Summer 2006)****Performance expected without the Local PSA**

Maths Level 4 and above	87%
English Level 4 and above	87%

**Performance target with the Local PSA**

Maths Level 4 and above	up to 88%
English Level 4 and above	up to 88%

**Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA**

Maths Level 4 and above	up to 1%
English Level 4 and above	up to 1%

**Interim performance target**

None

**Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target**

Use of average point scores instead of levels to measure uplift.

To express targets in terms of value added in particular where Special Needs Classes affect the results.

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**TARGET 3****Heading**

Attendance of pupils during the last two years of statutory education (with particular attention given to the attendance of girls)

**Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured**

Attendance is measured according to criteria governed by the Education (Pupil Registration) Regulations 1995 and detailed in the Statutory instrument 1995 No 2089.

The average whole school attendance for all Wirral secondary schools  
The average attendance in years 10 and 11 across all Wirral secondary schools

Six secondary schools have been selected (five of which have the highest level of unauthorised absence, and all of which have poor attendance.) and we will measure:

- average attendance; and
- unauthorised absence

**Current performance – 2001-2002**

The average whole school attendance for all Wirral secondary schools : 91.5%

The average attendance in years 10 and 11 across all Wirral secondary schools : 90.5%

Selected Schools average attendance :	88.4%
Selected Schools unauthorised absence :	1.14%

**Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (Summer 2006)****Performance expected without the Local PSA**

Selected Schools average attendance :	88.8%
Selected Schools unauthorised absence :	0.54%

**Performance target with the Local PSA**

Selected Schools average attendance :	90.4%
Selected Schools unauthorised absence :	0.15%

**Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA**

Selected Schools average attendance :	1.6%
Selected Schools unauthorised absence :	0.39%

**Interim performance target**

None

**Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target**

We would seek the freedom to be able to vary current legislation (Statutory instrument 2089) in order to be able to credit children with attendance where they gain most of their education either offsite or at unusual times of the day for example after school from 4-6 p.m. or evening classes.



**TARGET 4****Heading**

Improve the quality of life and independence of older people so that they can live at home wherever possible, by increasing by March 2006 the number of those supported intensively to live at home to 30% of the total being supported by Social Services at home or in residential care.

**Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured**

PAF C26 : Supported permanent admissions of older people to residential or nursing care

PAF C28 : Households receiving intensive homecare

PAF C32 : Older People helped to live at home

It is requested that the Performance Reward Grant is weighted as follows:

PAF C26: 10%

PAF C28: 45%

PAF C32: 45%

**Current performance**

2001/2002	PAF C26	121
2002/2003	PAF C28	15
2002/2003	PAF C32	65

2003/2004 envisages a 28% achievement of the National Target

**Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31.03.06)****Performance expected without the Local PSA**

PAF C26	110
PAF C28	15.41
PAF C32	80

**Performance target with the Local PSA**

2001/2002	PAF C26	100
2002/2003	PAF C28	16.41
2002/2003	PAF C32	85

**Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA**

PAF C26	10 (57 households)
PAF C28	1 (57 Older People)
PAF C32	5 (283 Older People)

**Interim performance target**

None

**Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target [18]**

The achievement of the stretch would be made easier by a different approach to use of some of the ring fenced grants and flexibility around grant conditions - in particular Carers Grant, Preserved Rights Grant, the Access and Systems Grant (the guidance for this is draft) and the Performance Fund.

We would look to be able to vary how the grants could be spent and with the Performance Fund freedom to carry it over into 2005/06. The SSI have signalled a willingness to assist in this negotiation. Some flexibility to deal with End of Year under / over spend would be advantageous, together with an agreement to use the activity levels in March 2006 instead of those reported via the HH1 in September 2005.

**TARGET 5****Heading**

To increase the percentage of looked after children (who have been looked after for at least 12 months prior to their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday) who, on leaving education, meet or exceed their predicted outcome attainment from Key Stage 3 (utilising GSCE/NVQ national added value tables tables).

**Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured**

Increase the percentage of looked after children who on leaving education exceed their individual predicted attainment based upon their predicted attainment indicated by their Key Stage 3 results.

PAF C24 – Percentage of children looked after continuously for at least 12 months and were of school age, who missed 25 or more days schooling for any reason during the previous year

PAF A2 - The percentage of young people leaving care with the least one GCSE grades A \* to G, GNVQ or equivalent.

QP OBJ 1 - The rate (per 10,000 children under 18 years) of children looked after in placements 20 miles or more from the council area.

QP 4 – The percentage of children who had been looked after continuously for at least 12 months & were permanently excluded from school at any time during the previous year.

**Current performance**

2002/2003 Individual predicted attainment : 50%

2002/2003 - PAF C24 : 15.5%

2002/2003 - PAF A2 : 48.7%

2001/2002 – QP OBJ 1: 8.5%

2002/2003 – QP 4 :1.4%

**Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31.03.06)****Performance expected without the Local PSA**

2002/2003 Individual predicted attainment : 50%

2002/2003 - PAF C24 : 12%

2002/2003 - PAF A2 : 60%

2001/2002 – QP OBJ 1 :8.5%

2002/2003 - QP 4 :1.2%

**Performance target with the Local PSA**

2002/2003 Individual predicted attainment : 60%

2002/2003 - PAF C24 : 11%

2002/2003 - PAF A2 : 72%

2001/2002 – QP OBJ 1 : 6%

2002/2003 – QP 4 : 0.6%

**Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA**

2002/2003 Individual predicted attainment : 10%

2002/2003 - PAF C24 : 1%

2002/2003 - PAF A2 : 12%

2001/2002 – QP OBJ 1 : 2.5%

2002/2003 – QP 4 : 0.6%

**Interim performance target**

**Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target**

Some flexibility to deal with end of year under / over spend would be advantageous.

**TARGET 6****Heading**

By 2010, reduce inequalities in health outcomes by 10% as measured by life expectancy at birth.

**Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured**

The following indicators will be used as a measure of achievement for a proposed increase in life of at least one year for 353 people during the three – year time frame. These indicators will be the achievement of set modifications to risk factors that are shown to have a direct impact on life expectancy in at least 733 of the 2,220 people recruited to the intervention.

- Lower / maintain blood pressure to below 140/85
- Either: lower cholesterol to below 5 mmol or reduce by 30% (which ever is greatest).
- Reduce BMI to between 19 and 24 although a reduction of 10% will provide significant risk reduction.
- Become smoke free.

**Current performance – 1997-1999**

No service to achieve intensive risk factor modification in this targeted high-risk group is available at present. Therefore, 2,220 (the number to be recruited to the intervention) people currently have one or both of the following risk factors:

- Impaired Glucose tolerance
- Aged over 60 and obese and smoker

**Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31.03.06)****Performance expected without the Local PSA**

Wirral Average Life Expectancy at Birth male : 75.1 years

Wirral Average Life Expectancy at Birth female: 80.0 years

**Performance target with the Local PSA**

Wirral Average Life Expectancy at Birth male : 75.4 years

Wirral Average Life Expectancy at Birth female : 80.1 years

**Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA**

Wirral Average Life Expectancy at Birth male : 0.3 years

Wirral Average Life Expectancy at Birth female : 0.1 years

Note: The enhancement is therefore to bring forward the achievement of the national life expectancy target by 4 years from 2010 to 2006

### **Interim performance target**

Annual monitoring of the proxy indicators will show numbers recruited from the high risk target population group to the intervention and percentage of these achieving the set modifications to risk factors.

### **Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target**

The activity to address this target is supported by the following NHS plan commitments:

- Implementation of the NSF's for CHD, Diabetes, Mental Health and Older People and the National Cancer Plan.
- In addition other national commitments relevant to this target include 'Tackling Inequalities'

Wirral PCT's have set in place significant investment plans for dealing with inequalities that could lead to difficulty achieving financial balance at end of year and some flexibility to deal with end of year under / over spend would be advantageous.

**TARGET 7****Heading**

To halt the deterioration of the condition of local roads by 2004 and eliminate the backlog by 2010. The target is also being linked to the continued improvement in successfully repudiating third party liability claims concerning damage to pavements and roads.

**Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured**

BVPI 96, 97a and 97b

BVPI 187

Local PI: to improve level of repudiation of third party claims by 5% from current level by the end of the LPSA period.

It is requested that payment of the performance reward grant be allocated as follows:-

- 45% in respect of BVPI 96
- 23% in respect of BVPI 97a
- 22% in respect of BVPI 97b
- 10% in respect of repudiation of third party claims

**Current performance - 2002/03**

BVPI 96	:	3.82%
BVPI 97a	:	16.06%
BVPI 97b	:	11.91%
Local PI	:	75%

**Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31.03.07)****Performance expected without the Local PSA**

BVPI 96	:	1.91%
BVPI 97a	:	8.03%
BVPI 97b	:	5.955%
Local PI	:	75%

**Performance target with the Local PSA**

BVPI 96	:	1.41%
BVPI 97a	:	7.53%
BVPI 97b	:	5.455%
Local PI	:	80%

**Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA**

BVPI 96	:	0.5%
BVPI 97a	:	0.5%

BVPI 97b	:	0.5%
Local PI	:	5%

**Interim performance target**

None

**Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target**

Freedoms requested around the “discretionary element of LTP and ring-fence income via Decriminalised Parking Enforcement



**TARGET 8****Heading**

To reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents by 40% and the number of children killed or seriously injured by 50% by 2010 compared with the average for 1994/98, and to increase pedestrian provision at traffic signals incorporating facilities for disabled people, designed to reduce pedestrian accidents.

**Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured**

Local Transport Plan (LTP) National Target :  
Number of All Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) Casualties to be reduced by 40% by 2010

BVPI 165

**Current performance**

All Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) Casualties : 178.4 - 1994/1998 average  
BVPI 165 : 80.4% - 2001/02

**Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31.03.07)****Performance expected without the Local PSA**

All Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) Casualties : 137 (2006)  
BVPI 165 : 92.6%\*

**Performance target with the Local PSA**

All Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) Casualties : 133 (2006)  
BVPI 165 : 92.86%\*

Performance to be assessed on the average saving for years 2004, 2005 and 2006 of 2 KSI accidents per year.

\* Note increased performance will be marginal as the intention is that new arrangements will incorporate facilities for the disabled, at sites which previously had no pedestrian facilities.

**Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA**

All Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) Casualties: 4 - an average of 2 per year over the life of the LPSA  
BVPI 165: 0.26%

**Interim performance target**

None

**Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target**

Department for Transport to keep the Council apprised of new initiatives and best practice in respect of training and road safety initiatives.

## TARGET 9

### Heading

To speed up the ability for transactions between the Council, citizens and businesses to be delivered electronically and to improve customer access to services through One Stop Shops and Information Points

### Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured

95% of residential properties that are within a 1 mile radius of a one-stop shop or information point

### Current performance

2002/2003 actual - 61%

### Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31.03.06)

#### Performance expected without the Local PSA

75%

#### Performance target with the Local PSA

95%

#### Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA

20%

### Interim performance target

None

### Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target

#### Change 1

When responding to the government consultation paper “e-gov at local” (April 2002) about tackling obstacles to close joint working, we identified that clearer guidance is needed which enables information to be shared. This includes the development of person identifiers, which are common across partner organisations. The ability to share information and data effectively to mutual benefit will advance the case for joint provision immeasurably, and improve customer access to services.

Change 2

The need to be able to work closely with colleagues in DWP and Job Centre Plus to organise, to some degree, joint visits or sharing of information from visits to clients homes.

Change 3

**Housing Corporation Requirements** – Currently where an authority's housing stock is transferred out of its direct control there is an expectation to see a large degree of separation between it and the new housing body. Whilst this is required for many purposes it does not help the individual service user. There should be a relaxation to allow ongoing close working. This could include presence on each others front of office access points.

Change 4

**Inland Revenue** – Currently there is a major transfer of information as Tax Credits are introduced in April and Pensions Credits in October 2003. There should be a re-consideration of information sharing between Inland Revenue and local authorities. Ultimately a limited access to Inland Revenue systems, should be considered as we already have with Department for Work and Pensions through its Remote Access Terminals. The appropriate security requirements that the DWP system has in place would still be needed.

## TARGET 10

### Heading

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 2% or more.

### Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured

Cost Effectiveness Index (see attached basket of Performance Indicators)

### Current performance

Cost Effectiveness Index: 100

### Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31.03.06)

#### Performance expected without the Local PSA

Cost Effectiveness Index: 106

#### Performance target with the Local PSA

Cost Effectiveness Index: 108

#### Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA

Cost Effectiveness Index: 2 index points

### Interim performance target

None

### Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target

None

## TARGET 11

### Heading

Reduce crime and the fear of crime; improve performance overall, including by reducing the gap between the highest Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership areas and the best comparable areas and reduce domestic burglary by 25% from 1998/99 to 2005 and maintain that level.

NB. In relation to this National Target, Merseyside Police Force have agreed a 10% reduction by 2004-5 from the base-line year of 1999-2000.

### Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured

National Target: Number of crimes recorded by Police as Burglary/Dwelling

### Current performance –1999/2000

Number of crimes recorded by Police as Burglary/Dwelling : 2706

### Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31.03.06)

#### Performance expected without the Local

Number of crimes recorded by Police as Burglary/Dwelling : 2436

#### Performance target with the Local PSA

Number of crimes recorded by Police as Burglary/Dwelling : 2327

#### Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA

Number of crimes recorded by Police as Burglary/Dwelling : 109

### Interim performance target

None

### Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target

That we request a significant reduction in the current bureaucracy methodology of the Home Office with reference to funding streams.

## Target 12

### Heading

To secure visible improvement to the local environmental cleanliness in the Borough (BVPI 199)

### Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured

BVPI 199

### Current performance – 2003/2004

BVPI 199 – new indicator – baseline to be agreed based on performance in 2003/04.

### Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31.03.06)

#### Performance expected without the Local PSA

BVPI 199 : to be negotiated when a baseline position is established

#### Performance target with the Local PSA

BVPI 199: to be negotiated when a baseline position is established

#### Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA

BVPI 199 : to be negotiated when a baseline position is established

### Interim performance target

### Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target

That DEFRA will establish arrangements which allow for receipts arising from Fixed Penalty Notices for dog fouling and street littering, issued under the Dog Fouling – Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 and the Environmental Protection Act, surrendered by Wirral Council to the Secretary of State to be repaid to the Authority for use in relation to approved categories of initiatives to further improve street cleanliness in Wirral.

## TARGET R1 (RESERVE)

### Heading

Increase the development of Brown-field sites – as part of the Borough's commitment to urban regeneration and the protection of the Greenbelt, it will seek to ensure that 70% of the new development in the Borough and 90% of its capital build projects in regeneration areas will be on brown-field land

### Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured

BVPI 106

### Current performance – 2001/2002

BVPI 106 : 78%

### Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31.03.06)

#### Performance expected without the Local PSA

BVPI 106: 65%

#### Performance target with the Local PSA

BVPI 106: 70%

#### Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA

BVPI 106: 5%

### Interim performance target

None

### Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target

That Government assists urban policy by not agreeing to any relaxation of the Green-Belt policy and boundaries for the next two decades.



## TARGET R2 (RESERVE)

### Heading

To reduce overall levels of worklessness in the Borough

### Indicator(s) by which performance will be measured

JSA claimants: Number claiming benefit as a proportion of total workforce, measured monthly by Job Centre+/ONS.

Incapacity Benefit claimants: Number claiming benefit as a proportion of total workforce, measured quarterly by Job Centre+/DWP.

Income Support claimants: Number claiming benefit as a proportion of total workforce, measured quarterly by Job Centre+/DWP.

### Current performance (November 2002)

- JSA Claimants: 6092.
- Incapacity Benefit Claims: 20320.
- Income Support Claims: 29800.

### Performance at the end of the period of the Local PSA (31.03.06)

#### Performance expected without the Local PSA

- JSA Claimants: 5500.
- Incapacity Benefit Claims: 20000
- Income Support Claims: 29400

#### Performance target with the Local PSA

- JSA Claimants: 5250.
- Incapacity Benefit Claims: 19300
- Income Support Claims: 28300

Future Performance expected **with** the LPSA

#### Enhancement in performance with the Local PSA

- JSA Claimants: 250.
- Incapacity Benefit Claims: 700
- Income Support Claims: 1100

### Interim performance target

None

**Government commitments in this agreement that support the achievement of this target**

The method of monitoring this PSA target relies on the availability of data from the DWP. Up to date information is not freely available (e.g. via the internet) and has to be obtained directly from the DWP. The Government could help other authorities significantly by making this data more readily available and perhaps increasing the sample sizes.

That Government incorporate the various other forms of worklessness into economic intelligence, not just focussing on JSA benefits. This will also support its social inclusion agenda.

The Government can also help by not changing the eligibility or method of calculating benefits claimants; or if it does could recalculate older data so that it is comparable (as with the changes to JSA claimants).

## **SCHEDULE 2: FREEDOMS & FLEXIBILITIES**

The Government intends to make the changes specified below in various statutory and administrative requirements, as they relate to Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council [and to pursue the further discussions described below].

The legal and practical feasibility of some of the changes had not been established at the time that this agreement was concluded. If the precise changes specified prove infeasible, the Government will use its best endeavours to achieve substantially the same effects by other means.

### **In support of Target 1 -Raise standards in English, Maths, ICT and Science in secondary education at Key Stage 3**

#### Change 1

Use of average point scores instead of levels to measure uplift.

### **In support of Target 2 - Raise standards in English and Maths at Key Stage 2**

#### Change 1

Use of average point scores instead of levels to measure uplift.

#### Change 2

To express targets in terms of value added in particular where Special Needs Classes affect the results.

### **In support of Target 3 - Attendance of pupils during the last two years of statutory education**

#### Change 1

We would seek the freedom to be able to vary current legislation (Statutory instrument 2089) in order to be able to credit children with attendance where they gain most of their education either offsite or at unusual times of the day for example after school from 4-6 p.m. or evening classes.

### **In support of Target 4 - Improve the quality of life and independence of older people so that they can live at home wherever possible**

#### Change 1

The achievement of the stretch would be made easier by a different approach to use of some of the ring fenced grants and flexibility around grant conditions - in particular Carers Grant, Preserved Rights Grant, the Access and Systems Grant (the guidance for this is draft) and the Performance Fund.

Change 2

We would look to be able to vary how the grants could be spent and with the Performance Fund freedom to carry it over into 2005/06. The SSI have signalled a willingness to assist in this negotiation

Change 3

Some flexibility to deal with end of year under / over spend would be advantageous, together with an agreement to use the activity levels in March 2006 instead of those reported via the HH1 in September 2005.

**In support of Target 5 - Increase the percentage of looked after children who, on leaving education, meet or exceed their predicted Key Stage 3 attainment**

Change 1

Some flexibility to deal with end of year under / over spend would be advantageous.

**In support of Target 6 - By 2010, reduce inequalities in health outcomes by 10% as measured by life expectancy at birth**

Change 1

The activity to address this target is supported by the following NHS plan commitments:

- Implementation of the NSF's for CHD, Diabetes, Mental Health and Older People and the National Cancer Plan.
- In addition other national commitments relevant to this target include 'Tackling Inequalities'

Change 2

Wirral PCTs have set in place significant investment plans for dealing with inequalities that could lead to difficulty achieving financial balance at the end of the year and some flexibility to deal with end of year under/over spend would be advantageous.

**In support of Target 7 - Halt the deterioration in the condition of local roads by 2004 and improve the repudiation of third party liability claims re: roads and pavements**

Change 1

Freedoms requested around the "discretionary element of LTP and ring-fence income via Decriminalised Parking Enforcement

**In support of Target 8 - Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured and increase traffic signal facilities for disabled people**

Change 1

Department for Transport to keep the Council apprised of new initiatives and best practice in respect of training and road safety initiatives.

**In support of Target 9 - E-Government - to speed up the delivery of electronic transactions and improve customer access to services through One Stop Shops and Information Points**Change 1

When responding to the government consultation paper “e-gov at local” (April 2002) about tackling obstacles to close joint working, we identified that clearer guidance is needed which enables information to be shared. This includes the development of person identifiers, which are common across partner organisations. The ability to share information and data effectively to mutual benefit will advance the case for joint provision immeasurably, and improve customer access to services.

Change 2

The need to be able to work closely with colleagues in The Pensions Service and Job Centre Plus to organise, to some degree, joint visits or sharing of information from visits to clients homes.

Change 3

Housing Corporation Requirements – Currently where an authority's housing stock is transferred out of its direct control there is an expectation to see a large degree of separation between it and the new housing body. Whilst this is required for many purposes it does not help the individual service user. There should be a relaxation to allow ongoing close working. This could include presence on each others front of office access points.

Change 4

Inland Revenue – Currently there is a major transfer of information as Tax Credits are introduced in April and Pensions Credits in October 2003. There should be a re-consideration of information sharing between Inland Revenue and local authorities. Ultimately a limited access to Inland Revenue systems, should be considered as we already have with Department for Work and Pensions through its Remote Access Terminals. The appropriate security requirements that the DWP system has in place would still be needed.

**In support of Target 10 - Cost effectiveness**Change 1

None identified at this stage

**In support of Target 11 - Reduce Domestic Burglary**Change 1

That we request a significant reduction in the current bureaucracy methodology of the Home Office with reference to funding streams.

**In support of Target 12 - To secure visible improvement to the local environmental cleanliness in the Borough**

Change 1

That DEFRA will establish arrangements which allow for receipts arising from Fixed Penalty Notices for dog fouling and street littering, issued under the Dog Fouling – Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 and the Environmental Protection Act, surrendered by Wirral Council to the Secretary of State to be repaid to the Authority for use in relation to approved categories of initiatives to further improve street cleanliness in Wirral.

**In support of Target R1 - Ensure that 70% of new development and 90% of capital build projects in regeneration areas will be on brown-field land (Reserve)**

Change 1

That Government assists urban policy by not agreeing to any relaxation of the Green-Belt policy and boundaries for the next two decades.

**In support of Target R2 - To reduce overall levels of worklessness in the Borough (Reserve)**

Change 1

The method of monitoring this PSA target relies on the availability of data from the DWP. This information is not freely available (e.g. via the internet) and has to be obtained directly from the DWP. The Government could help other authorities significantly by making this data more readily available and perhaps increasing the sample sizes.

Change 2

That Government incorporate the various other forms of worklessness into economic intelligence, not just focussing on JSA benefits. This will also support its social inclusion agenda.

Change 3

The Government can also help by not changing the eligibility or method of calculating benefits claimants; or if it does could recalculate older data so that it is comparable (as with the changes to JSA claimants).

Change XX (Unsupported Credit Approvals) [21]

The Government will permit the Council scope for an additional [*£2.27m*] of borrowing during the period of this Local PSA. The borrowing will be unsupported by any additional grant or subsidy.

The Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions will therefore issue an "Unsupported Credit Approval" (UCA) (a Supplementary Credit Approval that attracts no additional revenue support) of [*£2.27m*] to Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council. This UCA will be usable at any time during the Local PSA in respect of any of the projects listed below, subject to the maximum amount mentioned against each project.

<b>Target</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount (£000)</b>
4	Social Care - Software package for home care rostering system and funding for purchase of home care packages	50
7	Transport - Investment in road maintenance to halt deterioration	650
8	Transport – provision of pedestrian crossings with facilities for the disabled	250
11	E-Government – to improve customer access to information and access points	300
13	Crime Reduction – Alarm installation, target hardening devices, Homewatch co-ordination	100
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,350</b>

### **SCHEDULE 3: PUMP PRIMING GRANT IN SUPPORT OF INVEST TO SAVE OR INVEST TO IMPROVE PROJECTS**

To assist in achieving the targets set out in this Agreement, the Government will make a pump priming grant of £1,062,219 to Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council as a contribution towards expenditure of an “invest to save” or “invest to improve” nature. This grant will be paid no later than the financial year following that in which this agreement was concluded.

The grant is intended to contribute to the costs of the projects detailed below in Table 1, to the extent shown in the final column. It must be spent, during the period of this Local PSA, in accordance with this Schedule, or as otherwise agreed with the Government as likely to assist in achieving the enhanced performance specified in Schedule 1. Conditions protecting the proper use of public funds will apply.

**Table 1**

<b>Target</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Planned total of Council expenditure (£000)</b>	<b>Grant contribution towards this expenditure (£000)</b>
1	Education – Provision of Year 9 booster and teaching materials, supply cover and increased consultant time	2,750	90
2	Education – Provision of materials, supply cover and increased consultant time	722	90
3	Education – Improve management information data to enable more effective targeting of support and innovative ways of keeping identified pupils in contact with learning	600	80
4	Social Care - Funding for service re-engineering around home care provision and commissioning and and funding for purchase of home care packages	2,419	187
5	Social Care - IT service and database support to facilitate analysis of data and service re-engineering costs for training support, advice and development of new ways of working eg virtual school for children looked after	47,329	80
6	Health - To provide intensive services to those people identified on the Coronary Heart Disease Risk Register	1,500 (PCT)	140.5



Target	Project	Planned total of Council expenditure (£000)	Grant contribution towards this expenditure (£000)
7	Transport – Additional inspection support to ensure minimum standards of highway inspection are met.	7,460	150
8	Transport – Extend existing kerb craft training schemes and new cycle initiatives	3,351	120
9	E-government - to speed up the delivery of electronic transactions and improve customer access to services through One Stop Shops and Information Points		
11	Crime Reduction – Burglary Reduction Co-ordinator and publicity campaigns	300	230
12	Environment – to expand street cleansing, removal of abandoned vehicles and graffiti		540

<b>Total</b>	<b>66,431</b>	<b>1,707.5</b>
<b>Maximum PPG available</b>		<b>1062.2</b>
<b>Shortfall to be accommodated by the Authority</b>		<b>645.3</b>

#### Reserve Targets

Target	Project	Planned total of Council expenditure (£000)	Grant contribution towards this expenditure (£000)
R1	Regeneration – Awareness raising campaign re. increasing the development of brown-field land		50
R2	Regeneration – Economic forecasting project to enable more effective forecasting of skills shortages and design of training programmes		5

## SCHEDULE 4: PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT

The provisions of this Schedule are subject to any additional provisions on the performance reward grant elsewhere in the Agreement.

### **The total potential grant**

The total potential grant is equivalent to [2.5%] of the authority's net budget requirement for [2005/06]. It is divided equally among the targets. Where a target has sub-targets, the amount for the target is sub-divided equally among the sub-targets. The relevant net budget requirement was £[Ym].

### **The reward for achievement on a target**

The proportion of the potential grant attributed to a target or sub-target that is payable is the same as the proportion of the 'enhancement in performance with the Local PSA' specified in Schedule 1 that the authority achieves, subject to a maximum proportion of 100% and a minimum of 60%. If the authority achieves less than 60% of that enhancement in performance, nothing is included in the grant in relation to that target or sub-target.

### **Payment of the grant**

#### *Main grant*

The grant will be paid in two equal instalments in the financial year following that in which the end date of the Local PSA falls, and the next financial year, subject to the qualification below relating to interim payments on account.

#### *Interim payment on account*

Where the authority and the Government have agreed an interim level of performance in relation to a target (or sub-target), as specified in Schedule 1, and the authority achieves it, the Government intends to pay one-fifth of the grant attributed to that target (or sub-target) in the financial year before the first year in which payment of the main grant would be due. This is treated as a 'payment on account'. The definitive calculation of the grant will be made as described above. The balance of the grant entitlement will be paid in equal instalments in the two subsequent financial years. If the definitive calculation yields a smaller grant entitlement than the 'payment on account', the excess payment will be recovered.

Half of each instalment of the grant will be paid as a capital grant, and half as a revenue grant.

## Notes on template

### Main body of the agreement

1. Start date to be agreed. It should be within a reasonable period of the conclusion of the agreement.
2. The end date will normally need to be the end of a financial year, about 2½ to 3½ years after the start date, since that is the only point at which most of the data on performance in relation to the targets (other than those relating to schools) are available.
3. Subject to a maximum, the amount is £750,000 plus £1 per head of population. The maximum is one-third of the potential performance reward grant (described in paragraph 8 of the agreement). Where a county council's agreement is agreed to include sufficient collaboration with some or all of the district councils in the county, the grant is increased. This increase is £50,000, if all the districts are collaborating; if fewer are collaborating, the increase is limited in proportion to the number of district councils collaborating. "Population" is the Registrar General's most recent mid-year estimate.
4. DTLR will specify the year. The aim is to pay the grant reasonably soon after the agreement is concluded. But authorisation of the grant requires Parliament to approve a Special Grant Report, and it seems unlikely that they will be asked to do so more than once a year.
5. To be agreed. Agreements are expected to be signed shortly after the end of the specified negotiation period.
6. Signatories to be decided by the authority. (We understand that the Chief Executive's signature is considered to be the effective signature for such documents.)
7. Signatories expected to be the Local Government Minister and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, on behalf of the Secretaries of State making commitments in the agreements.
8. Secretaries of State will be included if the final agreement includes a commitment relevant to their Department.

### Schedule 1: Performance Targets

9. A brief, but specific, description of the issue this target is tackling as used in the descriptions that follows (eg "Increasing educational attainment at GCSE").
10. The national target number is shown in Annex A in "Local Public Service Agreements: New Challenges".
11. A brief, but specific, description of the issue this target is tackling (eg "Increasing educational attainment at GCSE").
12. Define the indicator by which performance is to be measured. The definition needs to be sufficiently precise that performance can be verified conclusively for the determination of performance reward grant. This need to include the units of measurement, timing of measurement, and source of the data. (If the proposed indicator is already defined

precisely for Best Value indicators or other national performance measures, a cross-reference to that other definition will suffice.)

13. Use latest available information.
14. Using the performance measure defined above, this is the figure for the performance expected if there were no Local PSA. This must be consistent with any relevant statutory performance required, and any relevant Best Value or service-based performance expectation (adjusted to fit the end date of the Local PSA, if necessary). Where there are no such relevant points of comparison, the figure should be supported in the supporting material, using such quantified evidence as is available.
15. A more "stretching" figure than for performance without a Local PSA. What is "stretching" is a matter of judgement and negotiation. The supporting material should support the figure proposed by the authority with information about actual performance at the most recent point of measurement (using the same measure of performance, or the nearest available equivalent), evidence of trends, and the reasoning leading to the figure proposed.
16. Arithmetical difference between the two previous performance figures (without and with a Local PSA). This is the enhancement in performance against which the actual enhancement in performance will be compared when calculating the performance reward grant.
17. An interim performance target, for performance one year before the end of the Local PSA, is optional. If it is specified, it must be measured in the same terms as the targets that apply at the end of the Local PSA. Where an interim performance target is included, it will be used in determining entitlement to any payment on account of performance reward grant.
18. A cross-reference to the provisions in this agreement (normally all in schedules 2 and 3) that are specifically directed to support for the achievement of this target. This is to clarify links that the agreement incorporates.

### **Schedule 2: Freedoms & flexibilities**

19. The text should define specific action to be taken by government, in terms that minimise the scope for ambiguity as to whether or not the commitment has been fulfilled. The final text will identify the government department that has accepted responsibility for delivering on the commitment. (The DTLR central team will advise on departmental responsibilities during negotiations as necessary.) Where the timing of action is critical, that too should be agreed between the authority and government, and recorded here.
20. Where the agreed action consists of, or is dependent on, further discussions between the authority (or authorities) and government departments, the agreement should record as precisely as possible what outcome both agree is being sought, and the timing, if it is critical.
21. Relevant only where there has been an agreement to issue a UCA.
22. Description must be sufficiently specific that use of the credit approval in accordance with this provision can be verified.

23. Amount to be determined in negotiation of the agreement.

**Schedule 3: Pump-priming grant**

24. The maximum amount for an authority is £750,000 plus £1 per head of population (using the Registrar General's most recent mid-year population estimate), subject to an overriding maximum of one-third of the potential performance reward grant.

25. A description sufficiently specific that it can be used when demonstrating that grant has been used on eligible expenditure.

26. Amount is a best estimate. Changes can be agreed with DTLR (with minor changes not requiring specific agreement).

**Schedule 4: Performance reward grant**

27. 2.5% if there are 12 or more targets in Schedule 1 to the agreement. If, exceptionally, an agreement with slightly fewer than 12 targets were to be concluded, this percentage would be reduced proportionately.

28. Where it is agreed that a county council's Local PSA incorporates substantive collaboration with one or more district councils, this reference will be extended to include the net budget requirements of those district councils.

29. The financial year 3 years before that in which the end date of the Local PSA falls.

30. If, exceptionally, a target were to be included provisionally, and was subject to further agreements to be reached after the Local PSA is concluded, the portion of the grant attributed to that target would be lost if those further agreements were not made.