

POLICY AND RESOURCES CABINET BOARD

7TH JANUARY 2011

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

**REPORT OF THE HEAD OF CORPORATE
STRATEGY – P.GRAHAM**

INDEX OF REPORT ITEMS

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1 Community Plan Update

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update members about the overall implementation of the Community Plan for the period May to October 2010. This is the overarching partnership plan for Neath Port Talbot.

Background

The Community Plan 2010-2020 sets out a shared vision of what we want Neath Port Talbot to be like by 2020. The revised Community Plan was agreed in April 2010 and therefore progress is for the period May 2010 to October.

Community strategies or plans are required to be aspiring documents; however the Neath Port Talbot Community Plan not only aims to set out an aspiring vision and set of priorities but also acknowledges the severe pressures upon public sector budgets and the need to be realistic.

Progress

The Progress Report gives an overview of how the Community Plan has made a difference across all the themes.

Performance across the Community Plan themes is monitored by the relevant supporting partnerships and by the Local Service Board. Progress is reported annually to the Community Plan Partnership, which involves the progress report being made available to partners invited to attend the Community Plan Partnership Annual Seminar.

The opportunity was taken at this year's Seminar to consider the financial challenges and how organisations were responding on an individual basis as well as in conjunction with other agencies and the community. The cross section of community representative inputs obtained at the Seminar will be fed into the process for identifying service priorities and budgets.

The Community Plan and the Progress Report can be accessed via the Council's website.

List of Background Papers

Community Plan 2010-2020

Wards Affected

All

Appendices

Appendix 1 contains the Community Plan Progress Report.

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Neath Port Talbot Community Plan 2010-2020

Progress Report May – October 2010



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Introduction

The revised Community Plan 2010-2020 published in April 2010 has drawn on a wide range of views expressed by the public and partner organisations as well as drawing on existing key plans, strategies and the evidence bases of the various partnerships.

This initial progress report, for the period May-October 2010, provides a brief overview of progress made against the themes and how partners have or will demonstrate progress against the various progress measures.

The tough challenges currently facing the County Borough are set to continue and, in some instances, increase over the coming years. The work already being undertaken across the various sectors and the partnership commitment expressed through the Community Plan provides a strong basis for us all to work together to meet and overcome these challenges.

This revised Community Plan will evolve over the coming years to respond to these challenges and their implications for the individual partnerships and the County Borough as a whole.

I look forward to working with all Community Plan partners, both current and new, to meet and where possible overcome these challenges to produce continual progress to achieve the visions for Neath Port Talbot.

Steve Phillips
Chief Executive

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

Local Service Board – Overview of progress

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

Neath Port Talbot LSB has a range of priority projects that it is currently working on which include:

Children's Services Review

A systems review of Children's Services is taking place within the Council. It was felt that the inclusion of this work as an LSB project would enable commitment, at the appropriate level, to be given by partners to supporting and contributing towards the success of the review, given the multi-agency nature of the work of Children's Services.

Successes to date:

- The review is progressing well and a new system of working is being piloted within two schools in the County Borough to test out several new ways of working including the value of community based working, co-located multi agency working and widening and developing the linkages between the review teams and other services.
- LSB partners are committed to ensuring the success of the review and have given their support to taking forward the recommendations from the review so far.

Alcohol

A project was undertaken by the Social Care, Health and Housing Scrutiny Committee to review the effects of alcohol on men aged 34-50. A large number of findings and recommendations included in the final report are to be taken forward. One of these was the inclusion of this as an LSB priority project given that alcohol misuse is an underlying cause of many social and economic problems and affects the work of many of the LSB's members' agencies.

Successes to date:

- The LSB has received a copy of the committee report and endorsed its conclusions and recommendations. Officers are currently scoping the additional work that the LSB might take forward.

Neighbourhood Management

It was felt that neighbourhood management could be a beneficial approach to stronger collaborative working between the different agencies to tackle priority issues at a local level.

Successes to date:

- A workshop has been held bringing together management and frontline staff from different agencies to discuss the purpose and objectives of neighbourhood management and to consider specific topics and how local responses to issues could be improved by implementing a neighbourhood management model.
- A sub-group has been established which is identifying a suitable neighbourhood management model which will then be piloted in an identified area.

Air Quality

Air quality has continued as one of the LSB's priority projects after making good progress in 2009-10.

Successes to date:

- Work has been undertaken between health and planning to draw up a protocol to determine which planning applications Public Health Wales and the Health Board should be consulted on.
- Health has been actively involved in drawing up the new Local Development Plan to ensure that the health impact of future developments is considered.
- Funding is being sought to implement a pilot air alert system which would be able to warn those vulnerable to poor air quality due to certain respiratory or cardio-vascular conditions, of impending poor air quality episodes and enable them to take preventative action.

More information on the LSB can be found at: <http://www.npt.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=2541>

Delivering Together Progress Measure

| Progress Measure | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | How we have/will demonstrate progress |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| Public services continue to improve across all service providers | | | | | As set out in the proceeding pages |

Confident Communities – Where we want to be by 2014

Overview of progress against thematic priorities to date

This theme's priorities all contribute to community cohesion, which at its simplest, is a term used to describe how everyone in a geographical area lives alongside each other with mutual understanding and respect, with everyone having an equal chance to participate and equal access to services. The emphasis is upon acceptance, integration and shared values. *Getting On Together – a Community Cohesion Strategy for Wales* – is part of the Welsh Assembly Government's *One Wales* commitment to achieve a fair and just society and for which implementation funding is available. A broad range of Neath Port Talbot projects have already benefited from the funding, providing a good basis for knowing what works to increase a sense of community belonging and a greater understanding of fairness and diversity in service provision.

Confident Communities need to be able to tell us what they think and so the Talking Neath Port Talbot project was launched: www.talkingnpt.org. This is a multi-agency database which holds details of citizen engagement activities taking place within the County Borough and publishes them via the website. An engagement activity is any activity through which people can have their say either in person or via a consultation. This might be a one-off event to discuss the future priorities for a plan or strategy, a consultation document which has been launched, a survey for people to complete or a range of meetings which people attend to raise issues or concerns. Also a variety of engagement mechanisms have continued to be supported, including via Neath Port Talbot Council for Voluntary Services' Forum Structure and via particular interest groups including the Disability Network, Mental Health Service User Alliance, Parent/Carer Forum and the Children and Young People Participation Group.

People's sense of independence, pride and confidence is inextricably linked to their physical environment and the services and facilities on offer. So as part of the production of the Local Development Plan (LDP), the spatial strategy for community provision is being considered. This involves providing communities with a clean, safe and secure environment, addressing the effects of climate change, accessing the positive determinants of health and restricting access to the determinants of poor health. The aim is to set out what community provision is needed within areas in order to make them more sustainable and healthy.

Agencies have also been brought together to consider how a neighbourhood management model, which essentially is the local organisation, co-ordination and delivery of core civic and community services within a Neighbourhood; could add value to existing services. This is one of the LSB's projects, so opportunities will be identified to better collaborate across service boundaries resulting in improved services from a citizens' perspective. As a result of the review of Children's Services a version of this model is going to be rolled out for children's services, whereby a multi-disciplinary team is based at specific schools in the County Borough. Locality events with Local Service Board partners have also been held in Taibach, Pontardawe and Glynneath to give information about different services and agencies at a very local level, engaging people who would not otherwise be reached.

Poverty is still being tackled locally via the Communities First programme in Neath Port Talbot. The programme has been in place locally since 2002 and has local Partnerships that develop and implement work programmes in their areas. The work programmes are cross cutting and especially focus on children and young people. Many organisations work in partnership in order to achieve local objectives for the Communities First areas. Where possible the Communities First areas work collaboratively with each other in order to access funding and enable people from different communities to come together. Many events and consultations are organised on a regular basis in order to ensure local people have a voice.

Many volunteers are working with the Communities First Partnerships in order to move projects forward and ensure sustainability is beginning to be addressed, where possible.

In the Communities First areas people's language, culture and heritage are celebrated in many ways in a bespoke fashion. For example in Briton Ferry West the community are developing the dock of Brunel and have recently produced a DVD of the history of the dock itself.

Preparation of the LDP is moving from the early stages of data gathering, inviting the suggestion of land with the potential to be allocated for new development and identifying issues to the preparation of the Draft strategy. This will set out the preferred strategy for communities together with the alternatives that have been rejected. There will be discussions with local groups and organisations and this will be followed by a formal public 6 week consultation exercise. For more information please contact the LDP Team (01639 686421), ldp@npt.gov.uk or www.npt.gov.uk/ldp.

Confident Communities Progress Measures

| Progress Measure | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | How we have/will demonstrate progress |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|
| People feel they can influence decisions affecting their neighbourhood | 42% | | | | <p>A Citizens' Panel consultation conducted in the first quarter of 2010, confirmed that just over two fifths of respondents agree that they can influence decisions affecting their local area (42%), while the majority disagree (57%). A higher proportion of Neath Port Talbot residents agree that by working together with people in their neighbourhood they can influence decisions affecting their local area (59%), leaving two fifths that disagree (41%).</p> <p>When asked if residents would like to be more involved in the decisions the Council makes that affect their local area nearly half (49%) say they would and two fifths (41%) say that it would depend on the issue. This leaves just one in ten (10%) panel members that are not interested in becoming more involved in Council decision making.</p> |
| People's sense of belonging | 67% | | | | <p>Two thirds of Neath Port Talbot residents feel that they belong to their immediate neighbourhood either very or fairly strongly (67%). The remaining third feel like they don't strongly belong, including 8% who say they belong, not at all strongly". The highest proportion of Neath Port Talbot residents, tend to agree "that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together (67%). Overall, more than three quarters (76%) of residents agree with this statement and one in eight disagree to some extent. The majority of residents consider people not treating each other with respect and consideration to be "not a big problem" (68%). A third of residents do consider this to be a fairly or very big problem (32%).</p> |

Environment – Where we want to be by 2014

Overview of progress against thematic priorities to date

Air quality in Neath Port Talbot (NPT) has improved significantly, strict monitoring and regulation as well as excellent partnership working has led to improvements and ensured that air quality remains good. The redevelopment of many of the former industrial sites by private companies has and will result in remediation of large areas of contaminated land. A good example of this is the Coed Darcy site in Llandarcy. We have a Contaminated Land Strategy in place and are currently working on key priority projects.

The diversity of local wildlife is being enhanced through the protection, management and enhancement of habitats in local nature reserves, country parks, biodiversity conservation areas, roadside verges and schools and the provision of ecological advice to the planning system, members of the public and community groups through consultation, leaflet distribution and awareness raising events.

The Council has a proven track record for delivering successful physical regeneration projects. Projects such as the Baglan Energy Park have received national awards in recognition of being an exemplar in regeneration best practice.

Working with people is essential to safeguard the environment and as well as the many teams in the Environment Directorate the NPT Environment Forum carries out many projects and activities that involve encouraging everyone to take part in activities that benefit the environment and assist us in leading more sustainable lifestyles. The joint awareness campaign “Greener NPT” www.npt.gov.uk/greener links in to all forms of media and communication so that we can inform everyone in NPT about what we are doing, what they can do and what’s on.

The performance figures for recycling and composting have been good so far this year. The food waste collection has been offered to 50,000 homes. Waste participation surveys have been carried out and waste awareness work has been taking place. We have a Waste Reduction Strategy which looks at reducing residual waste – such as nappies, junk mail, plastic bags and food waste which are difficult to recycle, costly and have reusable options available.

The Green Spaces Strategy managed by the Parks and Neighbourhoods teams ensures maintenance of a diverse range of Council green space environments ensuring safety and cleanliness meet quality standards in the provision and creation of fit for purpose sites that are accessible to all. There are many voluntary groups who also ensure the protection and enhancement of green spaces and their work is vital to ensure the public can enjoy the local environment.

Environment Progress Measures

| Progress Measure | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | How we have/will demonstrate progress |
|--|---|---------|---------|---------|---|
| Air pollution levels in air quality management areas | 6 exceedances of the daily averaged air quality objective (50 ug/m3) for PM10 | | | | <p>Levels of PM10 in Port Talbot in 2010 to date have improved further on the 2009 position, for which we recorded the best quality yet.</p> <p>Corus estimate that the BOS Gas Plant project will result in a reduction in PM10 by 40 tonnes per year. (35 exceedances are allowed in a calendar year to comply with the AQO).</p> <p>The figure is since 1st January 2010</p> |
| Impacts of climate change | 1.6% improvement in energy use | | | | <p>The Council has achieved the Carbon Trust Standard for all its buildings and vehicles (non housing). As part of the Carbon Reduction Commitment Scheme the Council is working towards reducing its carbon footprint for its building (non housing).</p> <p>The Council is installing automatic meter reading equipment in its buildings to maximise savings and to help identify further reductions.</p> <p>The BOS Gas Recycling Plant on the CORUS site will lead to a reduction of 250,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide per annum.</p> <p>The Council has signed up to the national 10:10 Campaign and WAG Sustainable Development Charter.</p> |

| Progress Measure | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | How we have/will demonstrate progress |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---|
| | | | | | <p>Flooding</p> <p>The River Neath and part of the River Afan are in a Flood Warning Area. Flood defences are in place at Resolven-Clyne, Tonna, Ystalyfera, Pontardawe, and Port Talbot, and a scheme has just begun in Trebanos in the Swansea Valley.</p> <p>The Council will be working with the Environment Agency to encourage residents to sign up for flood alerts.</p> <p>Biodiversity</p> <p>A species of snail, a CCW Climate Change Indicator, was found on Aberafan Beach. This is an indication that species are migrating north due to the changing climate.</p> |
| Amount of recycling and composting | 43.98% | | | | <p>This figure includes:</p> <p>Dry reuse = 0.42%</p> <p>Dry recycling = 30.47%</p> <p>Composting = 13.09%</p> <p>Performance so far this year has been good and looks very good in comparison across Wales.</p> |
| People's acceptance of their responsibility to protect and improve their environment | | | | | <p>To date the Environmental Change Team has attended/organised and undertaken 32 events to encourage the public to take responsibility to protect the environment.</p> |

Education and Lifelong Learning - Where we want to be by 2014

Overview of progress against thematic priorities to date

Vision

The participation rates for children and young people engaging in physical activity have continued to improve and Neath Port Talbot continues to provide a significant range of opportunities for our young people to become and continue to be active and engage in healthy lifestyles both in school settings and via more informal opportunities in their own time.

Priorities

Good arrangements are in place to promote school improvement (Estyn June 2008). The strengths are that the Council's education service understands how well schools are performing and are able to provide appropriate support which has led to improved educational outcome and the dissemination of good practice.

The Neath Port Talbot Children and Young People's Plan prioritises attainment at key stage 1 and 2, there is emerging evidence of long term development and improvement.

Pupils with additional learning needs achieve well against estimates and expectations, progress is particularly good from key stage 2 to key stage 4. Key findings from 2010 Pupil Performance Data shows a considerable reduction in the percentage of pupils leaving school without a recognised qualification. Considerable development work continues to take place in partnership in order to expand and enhance the vocational opportunities available to 14 to 19 year olds. That work is effectively supported by the delivery of new opportunities to access skills and training opportunities across the county for adults.

As a further support, a strategy for supporting young people not in education or training (NEET) has been developed on an inter-agency partnership basis and implemented in 2010.

Education and Lifelong Learning Progress Measures

| Progress Measure | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | How we have/will demonstrate progress |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---|
| Educational achievement for school pupils at Key Stage 1 | 75.5% | | | | Percentage achieving the Core Subject Indicator (level 2 or above in each of the core subjects of English or Welsh first language, Mathematics and Science) The 2010/11 figure is provisional and based on assessments made at the end of the 2009/10 academic year |
| Educational achievement for school pupils at Key Stage 2 | 75.7% | | | | Percentage achieving the Core Subject Indicator (level 4 or above in each of the core subjects of English or Welsh first language, Mathematics and Science) The 2010/11 figure is provisional and based on assessments made at the end of the 2009/10 academic year |
| The number of young people not in education, employment or training at post 16 | 7.1% | | | | This figure is taken from Careers Wales West annual destinations of Year 11 young people as reported in November 2009 and represents a reduction of 0.6 percentage points from 7.7% in 2008. The next official count will take place in October 2010. The CYPP has developed a NEETs Reduction Strategy and Action Plan 2010-13 and the Youth Service has appointed 3 Keeping in Touch Youth and Community Workers (KIT). The KIT workers, in partnership with Careers Wales West, will coordinate a multi agency model of working with NEET young people to move them into employment, further education or training. |

| Progress Measure | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | How we have/will demonstrate progress |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| The average wider point score for pupils aged 15 in schools maintained by the Local Authority | 363 | | | | <p>Each approved qualification has a points value that represents both 'size' and 'challenge'</p> <p>The 2010/11 (2009/10 academic year) data is not yet available.</p> <p>The figure quoted is for 2008/09 academic year.</p> |
| Level of working age people with no educational qualifications | 18.2% | | | | <p>Annual Population Survey data for qualifications is only available from the period January to December. Over the 2009 period, the Wales average was 14.8% of its working age population did not have any qualifications.</p> <p>We will continue to monitor the data available with an over all target of meeting and achieving lower than all Wales percentages.</p> |
| Levels of job related training in the previous 13 weeks for all those of working age | 19.0% | | | | <p>Annual population survey figures are actively monitored in order that appropriate job related training opportunities are effectively delivered.</p> <p>The figure is for the period April 2009 to March 2010.</p> |

Transport - Where we want to be by 2014

Overview of progress against thematic priorities to date

- ☀ **The Stage 2 Port Talbot Peripheral Distributor Road is completed and congestion on the M4 is reduced.**

Funding has been secured for Harbour Way, the second phase of this major transport route development.

- ☀ **The Port Talbot Parkway and Neath Railway Stations have been improved and are fully accessible.**

- ☀ Port Talbot: work in relation to stage 4 (Single Option Development) of Network Rail's Guidance on Rail Investment Projects (GRIP) has been completed. This will provide a basis for a bid into the Welsh Assembly Government's Enhanced Station Improvement Programme (NSIP+) for funding to carry out and implement a detailed design for a new station by 2013.

- ☀ Neath: the station is part of the Department for Transport's (DfT) 'Access for All' programme and discussions have taken place on the preferred option for creating DDA compliant access between the platforms. A decision is awaited from DfT. The scheme is scheduled for implementation by 2013. Discussions have also commenced on the development of an NSIP+ bid for a wider refurbishment of the station and forecourt.

- ☀ **A more comprehensive network of accessible public and community transport, including taxi services, is providing local communities and employment sites with a range of travel options.**

The main bus operators are continuing to adjust services in response to passenger demand, leading to some reduction in early morning, late evening and Sunday services. Taxi services are relatively stable, with only a very small decline in the number of licensed vehicles, though operations are mainly focussed in the main town centres.



The highway network is efficient and the maintenance backlog reduced.

The Council is in year two of its Urban Streets Initiative which is a three year programme funded by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPTCBC) aimed at improving streets in various areas throughout the County Borough. This initiative has included the renewal of road surfaces and pavements and is in addition to the ongoing Highway Works Programme. There are also dedicated highway inspectors who identify and prioritise highway defects and dedicated maintenance teams who carry out the repairs. Despite this, following two successive severe winters, and compounded by the significant reduction in Welsh Assembly Government Road Maintenance Grant, technical surveys indicate a deterioration in overall network condition.

The Council is currently exploring a 25 year Public Private Partnership for street lighting replacement and maintenance which, if one can be implemented, will result in the renewal of the public lighting stock in the County Borough.



The awareness, acceptability and use of sustainable transport, such as public transport, walking and cycling has increased.

As a key part of the monitoring strategy for the Regional Transport Plan SWWITCH has commissioned a regional household travel survey to identify current travel patterns, including awareness of sustainable options. SWWITCH is also working with the Welsh Assembly Government to develop several towns in the region as Sustainable Travel Centres. Neath has been proposed as such a centre, although progress will largely be dependent on future WAG funding.

Transport Progress Measure

| Progress Measure | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | How we have/will demonstrate progress |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---|
| <p>Availability of transport options helping people access employment, services, community and leisure activities</p> | | | | | <p>The following will be used to demonstrate progress:</p> <p>Bus services Total annual bus service kilometres operated</p> <p>Train services Total annual train service kilometres operated</p> <p>Community transport Number of vehicles in operation Number of drivers - paid/volunteer Number of passenger journeys/group hiring</p> <p>Taxis Number of licensed hackney carriage/private hire vehicles/drivers</p> <p>Shopmobility Number of mobility scooters Number of users</p> <p>Cycling Length of completed cycleways (kms)</p> |

Health, Social Care and Wellbeing - Where we want to be by 2014

Overview of progress against thematic priorities to date

- The Council has taken a decision to secure a partner to modernise its residential care services. Work is on target to produce a service specification, in consultation with NHS colleagues, by March 2011.
- The Council and the Local Health Board have made a formal commitment to extensive service integration across health and social care where it is in the interests of the service user to do so. A detailed business case for the first phase of this work which will focus on integrated intermediate care is being developed.
- The Council has embarked on formal consultation to improve the efficiency of its in-house home care service.
- Health improvement is being recognised as a significant issue that the LDP must address following the healthy sustainable conference in 2009. External assistance from the Wales Health Impact Assessment Unit at Cardiff University has been secured to support this work.
- The health needs assessment has been updated and its output used to inform a revised HSCWB Strategy which will be subject to a three month public consultation period.
- The children's systems review has completed its baseline phase and trials of a new way of working have also been completed. This new model is operational in Sandfields and Briton Ferry for a trial period. This work is receiving significant national interest.
- A proposal to streamline the existing partnership structure to concentrate capacity on the priorities for action have been agreed. The LSB will act as the statutory partnership with a programme management approach to delivering the strategy underpinning the new arrangements.
- A significant scrutiny exercise into the effects of alcohol and health was undertaken by elected Members. The recommendations have been integrated into the new Strategy.
- Further support work with the 22 businesses who have signed up to the "health challenge" has taken place. Screening of employees has enabled specific areas for health improvement-focus to be identified with advice given on the range of activities employers might consider to bring about health improvements in the workplace.

- Work is well advanced to transfer the Council's housing stock to the new NPT Homes organisation in early 2011 following a yes vote by council tenants earlier this year.
- Work is well advanced on working with GPs to improve patient access to their services. Revised access guidance was implemented in 2009 and further work on monitoring appointment systems will take place in 2010/11
- In order to improve the primary care estate and to bring a number of patient services under one roof, the Port Talbot Resource Centre opened in 2009. This has allowed primary care, secondary care, social services and voluntary sector services to be available to patients in one building. The Resource Centre also houses a dental suite which provides a wide range of NHS dental services including a dental training facility.
- Further work is also ongoing to improve primary care estate in other areas with plans for new primary care centres at both the Vale of Neath and Briton Ferry.
- Work has started on implementing "Setting the Direction – a Primary and Community Services Framework for Wales". This involves the development of Community Networks, a Community Resource Team and a Communications Hub to provide more seamless and integrated care for patients, particularly those who are vulnerable or frail. It also seeks to improve the hospital interface, particularly for unscheduled care and provide more care within the community. Community Networks have already been identified for Neath Port Talbot and work is ongoing to ensure that the Networks start functioning and lead the way for planning services within their communities.
- The Health Board has developed a 5 year plan (Quality, Service, Workforce and Financial Framework) which outlines the priorities and the shape of NHS services into the future and how they will be implemented. This will fit with the HSC&WB strategy and the work that is being done on integration and the development of Community Networks.

Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Progress Measures

| Progress Measure | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | How we have/will demonstrate progress |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|--|
| Number of homes managed by NPT Homes meeting the Welsh Housing Quality Standard | √ | | | | Successful ballot held. Transfer process ongoing with intention to complete by Spring 2011. (20 properties meeting the WHQS as at 31 August 2010.) |
| Number of affordable homes delivered | √ | | | | Arrangements with developers and bringing forward of SHG finance has contributed to providing new affordable housing units in the area. The number of additional affordable housing units provided during 2009/2010 was 121. |
| Health improvement links are "cored" into strategic plans | √ | | | | The current priority is to embed health improvement into the Community Plan which has been achieved and to embed health improvement into the Local Development Plan which is well advanced. |
| Integrated services are helping older people to live independently | √ | | | | Formal commitment from both the Council and the Local Health Board has been secured to this commitment. The first phase of work is concentrating on agreeing a new service model for integrated intermediate care with a view to implementing the new model early 2011-12. |
| Integrated services are helping vulnerable children and their families be better supported | √ | | | | The systems review has made steady progress and a new model based on integrated working across social services, education, health visiting and police is being trialled. There is national support for a formal evaluation of this work. |

Economic Prosperity - Where we want to be by 2014

Overview of progress against thematic priorities to date

To create sustainable jobs and growth in the area, NPTCBC provides advice and assistance to all sectors to maximise convergence funding. Working in partnership with the public, private, voluntary and community sectors the overall aim is to increase the GDP of the region. To date, 8 Council led sub regional collaborative projects have been approved.

NPTCBC is currently delivering 6 projects funded by the Rural Development Plan (RDP). The rural development team works in partnership with the Neath Port Talbot Regeneration Partnership and Local Action Group to maximise the use of RDP funding in the County Borough with the overall aim of increasing the prosperity of our rural communities. The team is currently supporting project applications to commence in March 2011.

Work has progressed in the Coed Darcy Urban Village. It is expected that the revised Masterplan and Town Code will be agreed later this year, and that the first phases of development on the main site will get underway. Following public consultation, the Central Port Talbot Master Plan Supplementary Planning Guidance is in the process of being adopted. A planning application has been submitted and received by the Authority in relation to the new University 'Innovation Campus'. The application will be presented for decision in the autumn of 2010.

Revision of the current Valleys Strategy is underway which will include developments under the Welsh Assembly Government's Western Valleys Strategic Regeneration Area (SRA) Valleys Action Plans. The Authority and the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) are working together to implement large strategic projects in the Valleys areas. The WAG SRA are considering funding submissions to support both the Neath and Pontardawe Town Centre regeneration projects. The SRA has supported stage one of the Rheola Masterplan study and this stage is now complete.

Business Support continues to play an important role in developing the local economy. For example, the convergence-funded Local Investment Fund continues to assist the development of new and existing businesses, having achieved approval for 36 grants to the value of £118,635 in its first year of operation. The WAG's Flexible Support for Business Regional Centre contract for south west Wales, run by the Council is achieving strong outputs.

The convergence-funded South West Workways regional project, which was approved in September 2009 and became fully operational in January 2010, is gaining momentum. The project has already engaged with 638 participants and helped 182 local people find work. NPTCBC was successful in its bid to the Department of Work and Pensions to operate a Future Jobs Fund contract in the County Borough area. This will enable 288 unemployed young people to take up a six month employment opportunity during the period October 2009 to March 2011.

The Engagement Providers Group was established to promote an understanding of the various interventions available which address unemployment. To date this group is proving beneficial. In addition, the Employer Support Group continues to be a useful tool to employers on recruitment matters.

Two new companies have emerged from the Sustainable Technologies Technium, namely Noland Technology and Scottish and Southern Electric. NPTCBC works in partnership with the Welsh Assembly Government Technium Management to identify companies that are suitable for the Technium.

NPTCBC and partner organisations, through the implementation of the Social Enterprise Strategy 'Profit With Purpose' and the NPT Social Enterprise Action Plan, are growing entrepreneurial confidence among individuals and groups from NPT communities. The Council is working with sub-regional partners to develop the Collaborative Communities project, who have been collating reports and information which has highlighted the business/service areas most likely to provide openings for social enterprise development.

Tourism stakeholder groups have been set up in the Neath, Dulais, Swansea and Upper Amman valleys and tourism development action plans have been implemented. A number of tourism projects are under development. In the Afan Valley, the delivery of the Afan Forest Park Action Plan continues and an application for convergence funding has recently been approved to establish the 'South Wales Cycling Centre of Excellence' worth over £5million. NPTCBC is the lead within this regional partnership that will create the critical mass necessary to provide the most exciting and accessible off-road cycle trail network in the UK. The project runs until December 2013.

NPTCBC has continued to encourage private sector investment in the area and has built close working relationships with numerous large private businesses with the aim of maximising the use of 'consideration' clauses for locally sourced goods, materials and employment.

Economic Prosperity Progress Measures

| Progress Measure | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | How we have/will demonstrate progress |
|---|---|---------|---------|---------|--|
| Provision of business support services helping businesses prosper | 79 | 75 | 80 | 85 | Whilst providing business support services, we will monitor the number of new businesses, the number of jobs created and safeguarded and level of private sector investment. |
| Level of unemployment | 10.4% (6,000 people) | N/A | N/A | N/A | Unemployment is dependent on a series of external factors. It is anticipated that the public sector cuts will have a significant influence on future unemployment levels. |
| Level of economic inactivity | 32.9% (28,600) | N/A | N/A | N/A | Economic inactivity is again subject to external factors. The economic inactivity has increased by 0.4% or 300 people since the last survey. |
| Population claiming Job Seekers Allowance | 15,746 (6,206 so far for this quarter) | N/A | N/A | N/A | There were 9,540 JSA claims over the previous quarter. Together with this quarter the cumulative total is 15,746. This includes 3132 for August and 3,074 for September. Data for October will be out on the 17 th November 2010 |
| Employment schemes/initiatives helping people prepare for and find work | 1871 | 1091 | N/A | N/A | Between the period of May 1st 2010 to October 31st 2010 Neath Port Talbot Workways had: 757 Referrals 464 Starters 160 People into Work |

Community Safety - Where we want to be by 2014

Overview of progress against thematic priorities to date

Public reassurance is secured by reducing crime and the fear of crime.

A number of community engagement activities have been held to promote community safety, targeting specific audiences with tailored messages to improve public reassurance. Overall recorded crime continues to fall.

Partnership activity continues to be focused on reducing crime, with a particular emphasis on prolific offenders, tackling violent crime and reducing re-offending.

The Partnership is currently reducing re-offending by Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPOs) by 44% against a target of 17%. The introduction of 'Breaking the Cycle' scheme has been a great success and to date 4 PPOs have been removed from the list as a result of engaging in this scheme.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) continues to be a significant priority, with a particular focus on repeat victims and early intervention.

The ASB Unit identifies, engages with, and develops action plans with all repeat victims of anti-social behaviour. In partnership with South Wales Police a comprehensive system of management has been developed to protect repeat victims. Further progress has been made in achieving earlier interventions with perpetrators.

Drug and alcohol issues are being tackled, with related crimes being reduced due to quality prevention and treatment services being in place.

The Substance Misuse Action Team (SMAT) is currently implementing an integrated model of service delivery across statutory and voluntary sector providers delivering quality and timely services for all those who need them. A 5 bed in-patient detoxification unit has been developed at Neath Port Talbot Hospital.

Services and support for victims of domestic abuse are improving with higher conviction rates for perpetrators and better services for victims.

The Neath Port Talbot and Swansea Specialist Domestic Violence Courts are working together to develop strategic solutions to address common issues. A joint voluntary based referral programme for perpetrators is being developed with Swansea and Relate Cymru. The Children and Young People's prevention group has mapped current services in school and community settings and identified gaps in service provision.

Environmental crime, including fly tipping, is further reduced due to initiatives such as Fly-tipping Action Wales project.

Environmental crime has reduced markedly due to the introduction of partnership working and sharing of information with other regulatory bodies. Successful prosecutions have increased significantly and the 'no nonsense approach' adopted by the Council's Waste Enforcement Team appears to be having the desired effect

The number of people suffering from the activities of unscrupulous traders, with some becoming the victims of crime, is reduced.

Trading Standards continue to tackle unscrupulous traders who mislead and deceive consumers. Rogue Trader Days are held regularly with other partner organisations to inform and reassure consumers. A Trustmark scheme of approved traders has been introduced to help consumers choose accredited contractors. Under age sales are tested regularly with enforcement action being taken as necessary. Tackling the sale of counterfeit goods is a major area of work, with court cases pending for counterfeit toys.

More activities are made available locally for those children and young people most at risk, to prevent them becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour.

Resources are being refocused to provide an integrated Neath Port Talbot Prevention and early Intervention Service. Interventions will be based on assessed levels of risk using information from all available sources The number of young people entering the Youth Justice System is the lowest for some time.

The Youth Offending Team (YOT) continues to work with those who are appearing before the courts many of whom are the most challenging young people in Neath Port Talbot. The Team links with other services both to protect the public and to support these young people to become offending free. A recent inspection shows the YOT performing above the average for YOTs in England and Wales. The resultant Action Plan is being implemented, particularly concentrating on improving links with Children's Services. The YOT has also been the subject of a thematic inspection on Courts and Reports which is due for publication in 2011. The YOT is working with colleagues in the magistracy and the Crown Prosecution Service to continue to improve services.

Community Safety Progress Measures

| Progress Measure | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | How we have/will demonstrate progress |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---|
| People who agree that the Police and the County Borough Council are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter in the area | 54.2% | | | | Since 2010 quarterly surveys have been completed with the community regarding public confidence of which the results have and will continue to be reported to the Partnership |
| Local service provision for people who misuse drugs, alcohol and other substances | | | | | Measure to be determined |
| Referrals successfully supported by the Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service | 344 | | | | A new database is currently being trailed which aims to record information more accurately |