

Economic Development and Enterprise

Table 1 shows performance against target. For comparison, December's figures are in brackets. End-of-year outturn is not yet available for all indicators which is why **Amber** judgements still remain. Table 2 shows performance compared to the same period in the previous year.

Table 1

	No. of indicators	On course to achieve target (or establish baseline)	Some progress, but data / lack of data or analysis suggests that the target may not be achieved, but should be capable of achievement if remedial action is taken	Not achieved / not expected to be achieved / no activity reported
Corporate Plan (including LAA and HCS)	14 (14)	11 (7)	1 (6)	2 (1)
of which				
Local Area Agreement (LAA)	6 (6)	5 (2)	0 (4)	1 (0)
Herefordshire Community Strategy (HCS)	9 (9)	7 (5)	1 (3)	1 (1)
All reported indicators	18 (18)	15 (11)	1 (6)	2 (1)

Table 2

Direction of Travel		
	December	March
Improving	1	5
No real change	0	1
Deteriorating	0	1
Total	1	7

Headlines

- Changes since September 2008:

Green from Amber

- NI 152 'working age people on out of work benefits'
- NI 168 'principal roads where maintenance should be considered'
- NI 178 'bus services running on time'
- HCS 3 'number employed in knowledge and technology intensive industries'

Red from Amber

- NI 169 'non-principal roads where maintenance should be considered'

Regeneration Director Commentary

'The Regeneration Directorate has met the majority of targets for 2008/2009 across a range of Local Area Agreement, Herefordshire Community Strategy and Herefordshire Council Corporate Plan indicators for which the Directorate has the lead. It has been a particularly challenging year as the economic downturn has had an impact across all service areas. In particular challenges have been felt in the Housing service where there have been increasing pressures on homelessness; in the local economy where there has been significant impacts on local businesses and in the planning service where there has been a significant reduction in planning applications and therefore in the income generated to support the service. The directorate has led on the development of an action plan to respond to the broader impacts of the downturn.

During the year the Directorate continued to work to influence the outcome of the Place Survey, the final results of which are still awaiting publication by the Department of Communities and Local Government. Despite this we have been able to establish baselines and set a number of targets for the forthcoming years that will enable us to measure the improving performance of the Directorate against a number of key performance indicators. This change to the National Indicator set has meant that greater reliance is placed in-year on monitoring services delivering agreed service plan actions and, this year, on establishing baseline data.

In addition there are a number of indicators in the new National Indicator Framework where the services are being delivered by other agencies. The Directorate continues to work in partnership with these agencies in order to influence and monitor the performance outcome. We are continually monitoring the current situation in respect of employment and business in Herefordshire and have developed an action plan with the Economic Development Partnership Group to establish an intervention programme. An "action learning set" has been established to work across directorates, services and organisations to working flexibly to instigate activity to support businesses and individuals.

Although a number of Economic Development indicators have met target in 2008/09 it is likely that as a result of the economic downturn that these may start to move to a more negative position. As well as addressing short term measures regarding the economic downturn, the directorate is pursuing long term schemes with key funding agency AWM (Advantage West Midlands). However, indications are that AWM funding support is coming under pressure with a higher expectation of delivery on

key schemes including Edgar Street Grid (ESG), Rotherwas Futures and the Model Farm.'

Environment and Culture Director commentary

'Within the themes of economic development and enterprise, safer and stronger communities and sustainable communities outturn data for 2008-09 is now available for most performance indicators. Where baselines have been required for new National Indicators these have been, or are in the process of being, set.

Despite significant severe weather events during the year road condition overall has improved. The only disappointment was in relation to classified non-principal roads where roads worse than the condition threshold remained at the same level as 2007-08 (11%), failing to meet the target of 10%. Work is in hand as part of the implementation of the Amey Wye Valley service delivery review to ensure the 2009-10 target of 9% is achieved. Street cleanliness overall has seen an improvement, with only the level of detritus, at 13%, being outside the target (12%).'