

**2004/05 BVPIS WITH 10% OR MORE VARIANCE BETWEEN 2003/04 ACTUAL AND
2004/05 TARGET**

PI Reference and Short Description	2003/04 Actual (* Indicates changed value from that reported in 2003/04 BVPP)	2004/05 Target	2004/05 Actual	Variance Actual (# Indicates to/from 0 so given a variance of 100%)	Variance Target (# Indicates to/from 0 so given a variance of 100%)	Reason(s) for variance
<i>Improving the local economy</i>						There are no BVPIS in this theme.
<i>Promoting inclusive communities</i>						
BV2b The duty to promote race equality	52.6%	60%	57.9%	10.1% BETTER	---	Measurable improvements in respect of increasing confidence in reporting racial incidents is evidenced in BV174, which shows a gradual and predicted increase in the number of reported racial incidents, in line with the establishment of more effective and better publicised reporting procedures.
BV76a Housing Benefit Security – the number of	286	320	285	---	10.9% WORSE	In retrospect target set too high with respect to the total number of visits to be carried out.

claimants visited per 1,000 caseloads.						
BV76c Housing Benefit Security – the number of fraud investigations per 1,000 caseload.	72	80	31	56.9% WORSE	61.3% WORSE	In retrospect target set too high as no benchmarking data was available
BV76d Housing Benefit Security – the number of prosecutions and sanctions per 1,000 caseload.	0.91	0.7	1.9	108.8% BETTER	171.4% BETTER	
BV78a Speed of processing – average time for processing new claims in days.	35	31	35	---	12.9% WORSE	Not achieved due to a change in processing procedures and restructuring of staffing.
BV78b Speed of processing – Average time for processing notifications of changes of circumstances in days.	8	7	9	12.5% WORSE	28.6% WORSE	As BV78a
BV79b Accuracy of processing – Percentage of recoverable overpayments (excluding Council Tax Benefit) that were recovered in the year.	38.52%	65%	48.13%	25.0% BETTER	26.0% WORSE	As BV78a
BV156 Percentage of authority buildings open to the public in which all public areas are suitable for and accessible to disabled	49%	85%	74.51%	52.1% BETTER	12.3% WORSE	A lot of work done to make buildings compliant. The target has not been achieved due to delays in completing certain works, although completion of these is imminent.

people.						
BV174 The number of racial incidents recorded by the authority per 100,000 population.	74.6	85	90.6	21.5% WORSE	---	Efforts have been made to increase awareness of and use of the reported procedure and this has resulted in an increase in the reported incidents. This does not necessarily mean that the number of actual incidents is increasing.
BV177 Percentage of authority expenditure on legal and advice services which is spent on services that have been awarded the Quality Mark and meet a priority legal need identified in the Community Legal Service Partnership strategic Plan.	69.1%	98%	97.1%	40.5% BETTER	---	Increase in quality marked organisations.
BV183a The average length of stay in bed and breakfast accommodation of households, which include dependent children or a pregnant woman and which are unintentionally homeless and in priority need (weeks).	2	1	1	50.0% BETTER	---	Numbers are small but management efforts directed at reducing the use of bed and breakfast accommodation.
BV184a The proportion of LA home's which were non-decent at the start of the year.	5.84% of 6,275	3% of 5,855	2.51% of 5,860	57.0% BETTER	16.3% BETTER	Revenue funded works were omitted from the original projections, and had a significant impact on the remaining non-decent numbers.
BV184b The percentage	-33.04%	-16.25%	-77.67%	135.1%	378.0%	Revenue funded works were omitted from the

change in proportion of non-decent LA homes during the year.				BETTER	BETTER	original projections, and had a significant impact on the remaining non-decent numbers.
BV212 (ex BV68 and CS8) Average relet times for local authority dwellings	23	26	23	---	11.5%	New in 2005/06 but retained as local since deleted as BV68.
<i>Raising educational achievement</i>						
BV33 Youth Service expenditure per head in Youth Service age range.						
BV34a Percentage of primary schools with 25%+ (and at least 30) of their places unfilled.	17.6%	8.8%	0.0%	100%# BETTER	100%# BETTER	Capacities revised and a school closed.
BV38 Percentage of pupils in local authority schools achieving 5 or more A*-C grade GCSEs.	50.8%	55%	48.8%	---	11.27% WORSE	Performance was either maintained or improved in 5 out of 7 schools in 2004 compared to 2003. However, only 1 school met its target in 2004. 5 schools under performed against predicted pupil outcomes. Head teacher changes at 5 schools last year. Action plan within Education Services Plan. All school required to submit EiC/LPSA action plan to indicate how additional funding supporting raised attainment.
BV44 Number of pupils permanently excluded in maintained schools per 1,000.	0.55	0.93	1.53	178.2% WORSE	64.5% WORSE	Change in absolute small numbers shows large percentage difference. Will improve performance by developing outreach role of EOTAS service.
BV45 Percentage of half	9.2%	7.4%	9.2%	---	24.3%	Stretch targets agreed with DfES, which attracts

days missed due to all absence in secondary schools maintained by the authority.					WORSE	additional funding. Will use additional funding to develop comprehensive publicity drive, employ additional EWS – launch new strategy.
BV46 Percentage of half days missed due to all absence in primary schools maintained by the authority.	6.4%	5%	6.1%	---	22.0% WORSE	Stretch targets agreed with DfES, which attracts additional funding. Will use additional funding to develop comprehensive publicity drive, employ additional EWS – launch new strategy.
BV48 Percentage of schools maintained by the Authority subject to special measures.	2%	0%	0%	100.0% BETTER	---	Eastbourne School was subject to special measures during this reporting period. Eastbourne was removed from special measures in November 2004 due to improvement actions undertaken.
BV50 Educational qualifications of children looked after by reference to the percentage of young people leaving care aged 16 or over with at least 1 GCSE at grades A*-G or GNVQ.	46.7%	45%	71.43%	53.0% BETTER	58.7% BETTER	We have exceeded target by actively managing children’s education. In the PAF good performance band for this very important indicator.
BV159a Percentage of permanently excluded pupils attending 5 hours or less per week alternative tuition.	5.7%	0%	0%	100.0%# BETTER	---	High percentage difference produced by changes in small absolute numbers.
BV159b Percentage of permanently excluded pupils attending 6 to 12 hours per week alternative	5.7%	0%	7.1%	24.6% WORSE	100.0%# WORSE	High percentage difference produced by changes in small absolute numbers.

tuition.						
BV159c Percentage of permanently excluded pupils attending 13 to 19 hours per week alternative tuition.	5.7%	0%	3.6%	36.8% BETTER	100.0%# WORSE	High percentage difference produced by changes in small absolute numbers.
BV159d Percentage of permanently excluded pupils attending 20 hours or more per week alternative tuition.	82.9%	100%	89.3%	---	10.7% WORSE	High percentage difference produced by changes in small absolute numbers. Management efforts are directed at increasing the number of hours of alternative tuition offered.
BV161 Employment, education and training of care leavers.	53.6%	50%	62.5%	16.6% BETTER	25.0% BETTER	We have exceeded target on this indicator due to proactive management of the process of getting care leavers into education, employment and training. This performance is in the top PAF performance banding nationally.
BV181c Percentage of 14 year-old pupils in schools maintained by the LEA achieving Level 5 or above in Key Stage 3 test in Science.	65.7%	73%	65.6%	---	10.1% WORSE	All schools underperformed against FFT pupil performance prediction. 4 schools improved on 2003 results. Active work with schools being undertaken to address areas of underperformance.
BV181d Percentage of 14 year-old pupils in schools maintained by the LEA achieving Level 5 or above in Key Stage 3 test in ICT.	65.9%	82%	63.3%	---	22.8% WORSE	6 out of 7 schools failed to achieve target set but 3 schools improved on 2003 assessments. No ICT Results available for Carmel still (as at 5th April 2005).
BV192a Quality for teaching early years and childcare services. –	4.4	4	4.9	11.4% BETTER	22.5% BETTER	Large variances are due to small numbers involved, i.e. four extra courses offered this year.

Average number of days access to relevant training and development per practitioner delivering Foundation Stage education.						
BV192b Quality of teaching for early years and childcare services – Average number of settings per teacher.	9.3	10	9.3	10.8% WORSE	17.0% WORSE	Large variances are due to small numbers involved, i.e. three less schools this year due to closures.
BV193b Increase in the Schools Budget on the previous year as a percentage of the increase in the Schools Funding Assessment on the previous year.	116%	100%	100%	13.8% WORSE	---	Should increase schools budget by 100% in line with the Schools Funding Assessment.
BV194a Percentage of pupils achieving Level 5 or above in Key Stage 2 English.	25%	31%	26.6%	---	14.2% WORSE	Improvement in 2004 above national rate of improvement. 17 schools improved on 2003 results. 18 schools underperformed against FFT pupil performance prediction. Action plan with Education Service Plan. LEA strategy to support able, gifted and talented pupils launched in November 2004.
<i>Stimulating leisure activities</i>						
BV170a The number of visits to/usage's of	502.6	500	641	27.5% BETTER	28.2% BETTER	The increase can be attributed to an increase in visitor figures earlier in the year and a growth in

museums per 1,000 population.						the educational activity plus the revised website is receiving more hits than in previous years. However caution is required in relation to the visitor figures, study centre visits and meeting room numbers in relation to the opening of Locomotion at Shildon.
BV170b The number of visits to museums that were in person per 1,000 population	341.4	328	290	15.1% WORSE	11.6% WORSE	Reduction in the study centre visits and the meeting room usage. The Time Trackers educational visits were also postponed until May 2005.
BV170c The number of pupils visiting museums and galleries in organized school groups.	6,131	3,850	6,455	---	67.7% BETTER	The annual figure has exceeded target due to the awarding of additional funding via such projects as Renaissance etc. and the Rail Heritage project to enable additional activities to be put on throughout the year.
<i>Promoting community safety</i>						
BV126a Domestic burglaries per 1,000 households.	13.6	15	10.07	26.0% BETTER	32.9% BETTER	Durham Constabulary and the Community Safety Partnership have made a concerted effort to address this crime using a combination of proactive operations and media campaigns.
BV127 (proxy) Violent crime per 1,000 population.	11.9	13	11.5	---	11.5% BETTER	As BV126a
BV128a Vehicle crimes per 1,000 population.	22.8	12.5	14.03	38.5% BETTER	12.2% WORSE	As BV126a Vehicle crime remains a high priority for the Community Safety Partnership.
<i>Improving health and well-being</i>						
BV49 Stability of	14.5%	16%	9.5%	34.5%	40.6%	We have achieved excellent performance in

placements of children looked after by the authority by reference to the percentage of children looked after on 31 March in any year with three or more placements during the year				BETTER	BETTER	2004/05, remaining in the top performance band. This is due to sustained management of the placements.
BV51 Costs of services for children looked after by the authority by reference to the gross weekly expenditure per looked after child in foster care or in a children's home	£460	£510	£439	---	13.9% BETTER	
BV53 Intensive home care per 1,000 population aged 65 or over.	11.65	13	12.9	10.7% BETTER	---	
BV54 Older people (aged 65 or over) helped to live at home per 1,000 population aged 65 or over.	75.5	75	84.9	12.4% BETTER	13.2% BETTER	
BV56 Percentage of items of equipment delivered within 7 working days	63.5%	60%	76.84%	21.0% BETTER	28.1% BETTER	
BV62 The proportion of unfit private sector dwellings made fit or demolished as a direct result of action by the local	6.52%	6.62%	8.85%	35.7% BETTER	33.7% BETTER	Our work in tackling unfit in the private sector has been greatly assisted by the revised Private Sector Renewal Policy, which has helped to target our grant work (undertaken by Care and Repair Darlington) to areas of poorer dwelling conditions.

authority.						Furthermore, we have appointed another officer, who is dedicated to helping deliver the PSA plus targets for this indicator and for BV64.
BV163 Adoptions of children looked after.	3.03%	6.5%	3.08%	---	52.6% WORSE	We have not achieved our target, partly due to court delays and matters beyond our control. An action plan is in place to improve performance in 2005/2006.
BV166a Score against a checklist of enforcement best practice for environmental health.	80%	90%	90%	12.5% BETTER	---	Improvements made to the service against the checklist of best practice.
BV166b Score against a checklist of enforcement best practice for trading standards.	80%	90%	90%	12.5% BETTER	---	AS BV166a
BV185 Percentage of responsive (but not emergency) repairs during the year, for which the authority both made and kept an appointment.	39%	45%	55.5%	42.3% BETTER	23.3% BETTER	The system has been strengthened to ensure that appointments are made whenever possible. A revised computer system is facilitating this.
BV195 Acceptable waiting time for assessments	36%	60%	78.5%	118.1% BETTER	30.8% BETTER	
BV196 Acceptable waiting time for care packages	67%	60%	75.2%	12.2% BETTER	25.3% BETTER	
BV198 The number of problem drug users in treatment per 1,000 head of population aged 15-44.	9.9	1.5	12.4	25.3% BETTER	726.7% BETTER	Partnership working with the PCT has contributed to the improved performance. Note that this is the old BV198 the DoH could not provide the data in time for the publication of this plan against the new definition.

BV201 The number of adults and older people receiving direct payments at 31 March per 100,000 population aged 18 years or over.	New	50	95.4	New	90.8% BETTER	Encouragement for the take-up of direct payments.
BV202 The number of individuals sleeping rough on a single night within a local authority's boundaries.	New	6	5	New	16.7% BETTER	The number sleeping rough in Darlington is small and reducing so one individual has a significant impact on the percentage change. Nevertheless homelessness is being actively tackled with positive results.
BV203a The number of families which include dependent children or a pregnant woman placed in temporary accommodation under the homelessness legislation.	New	4	3	New	25.0% BETTER	The number is very small and so one individual can result in a large percentage change. Nevertheless homelessness is being actively tackled with positive results.
BV203b The percentage change in the number of dependent children or pregnant women placed in temporary accommodation under homelessness legislation compared with the average from the previous year.	New	-33%	200%	New	706.1% WORSE	The large percentage change is the result of the small numbers year-on-year.
<i>Enhancing the local environment</i>						
BV64 The private sector	121	125	134	10.8%	---	We have over the year developed better links with

dwellings that are returned into occupation or demolished during the year as a direct result of action by the local authority.				BETTER		colleagues in other departments, to gain access to information from planning and building control regarding any assistance they have provided to owners of empty homes. We have also appointed an officer to help deliver the PSA target for Empty Homes, and are currently working on the delivery of an empty Property strategy
BV106 Percentage of new homes built on previously developed land.	96%	60%	84%	12.5% WORSE	40.0% BETTER	Completions on West Park, the largest greenfield site, have begun to come through in the current financial year. However, development on other large greenfield sites at Mowden Rugby Club and Geneva Lane is not expected to generate any completions until 2005/06 financial year.
BV109a Major planning applications determined within 13 weeks.	53.85%	60%	46.15%	14.3% WORST	23.1% WORSE	
BV109b Minor planning applications determined within 8 weeks.	53.39%	65%	53.74%	---	17.3% WORSE	
BV199 The percentage of relevant land and highways that is assessed as having combined deposits of litter and detritus that fall below an acceptable level.	28%	24%	19%	32.1% BETTER	20.8% WORSE	
BV204 Percentage of appeals allowed against the authority's decision to refuse.	New	45%	16.7%	New	62.9% BETTER	
BV205 Quality of service	New	75%	83%	New	10.7%	

checklist					BETTER	
<i>Developing and effective transport system</i>						
BV96 Condition of principal roads (CVI)	1.93%	3%	1.59%	17.6% BETTER	47.0% BETTER	Additional resources have been directed at improving the condition of principal roads.
BV97a Condition of non-principal roads.	9.62%	8.76%	8.41%	12.6% BETTER	---	Additional resources have being directed at improving the condition of non-principal roads although this was somewhat later than the principal roads that were prioritised.
BV99ai Number of casualties – All KSI	Amended	47	37	Amended	21.3% BETTER	Changes to small numbers give rise to relatively large percentage variations but the overall improvement reflects the road improvements and safety work that is undertaken. However performance in this area is ultimately significantly dependent on some factors outside the Council’s control, e.g. road user behaviour, weather, road-worthiness of vehicles.
BV99aii Percentage change over previous year – All KSI	Amended	-23.7%	-2.6%	Amended	89.0% WORSE	As BV99ai
BV99aiii Percentage change over 1994-1998 average – All KSI	Amended	17.5%	35.1%	Amended	100.6% BETTER	As BV99ai
BV99bi Number of casualties – Children KSI	Amended	8	5	Amended	37.5% BETTER	As BV99ai
BV99bii Percentage change over previous year – Children KSI	Amended	700%	400%	Amended	42.9% BETTER	As BV99ai

BV99biii Percentage change over 1994-1998 average – Children KSI	Amended	80%	-50%	Amended	162.5% BETTER	As BV99ai
BV99ci Number of casualties – All slight injuries	Amended	463	405	Amended	12.5% BETTER	As BV99ai
BV99cii Percentage change over previous year – All slight injuries	Amended	100.2%	-12.3%	Amended	112.3% BETTER	As BV99ai

BV99ciii Percentage change over 1994-1998 average – All slight injuries	Amended	114.6%	100.25%	Amended	12.5% BETTER	As BV99ai
BV100a Number of days of temporary traffic controls or road closure on traffic sensitive roads caused by local authority road works per km of traffic sensitive road.	0.1	0.5	0.51	410% WORSE	---	Inevitably as works have been undertaken to improve the condition of roads an increase in the number of temporary traffic controls has been necessary.
BV186a Percentage of principal road network not needing major repair by cost per km.	78.4	7.7	48.02	Not comparable	523.6% WORSE	Survey method for BV96 has changed to TTS (Scanner). No comparison is possible with previous survey method.
BV186b Percentage of non-principal road network not needing major repair by cost per km.	296.7	230.9	266.02	Not comparable	15.2% WORSE	As for BV186a
BV187a Condition of footways: categories 1, 1a and 2.	30.41%	27%	18.41%	39.5% BETTER	31.8% BETTER	Improvement reflects efforts made to improve the quality of footways by additional spending.
BV223 (ex-BV96 TRACS) Percentage of local authority principal road network where structural maintenance should be considered.	Amended	90%	34.97%	Amended	61.14% BETTER	As for BV96
<i>ALL THEMES</i>						
BV11a Percentage of top	53.03%	49.61%	58.33%	---	17.6%	The reason for a variation is that both Social

5% of earners who are women.					BETTER	Services and Education Departments have actively appointed more women earning the top 5%.
BV11b Percentage of top 5% of earners from black and minority ethnic communities.	1.51%	1.58%	1.39%	---	12.0% WORSE	As the denominator for this indicator is very small if an employee commences or leaves the council the figures can change dramatically. We had 2 employees leave the authority and one come back again. The target has still been achieved on the number of employees from BME (being 2) although the actual percentage is different because of fluctuating numbers of staff.
BV12 The number of working days/shifts lost due to sickness absence.	11.19	10.47	9.93	11.3% BETTER	---	Management actions have increased during this year by 30%, demonstrating the link between increased management intervention and reduced sickness absence levels.
BV14 Percentage of employees retiring early (excluding ill-health retirements) as a percentage of the total workforce.	1.04%	0.75%	0.28%	73.1% BETTER	62.7% BETTER	Management actions have addressed the number of early retirements and the current low number likely to be maintained.
BV15 The percentage of employees retiring on grounds of ill health as a percentage of the total workforce.	0.99%	0.76%	0.28%	71.7% BETTER	63.2% BETTER	Management actions have addressed the number of early retirements and the current low number likely to be maintained.