

Access to Education, Skills and Employment
Exception Reports

Exception Report	
Rating and Reference	AMBER WORKING AGE PEOPLE ON BENEFITS (AESE3) NI 152
Name of Lead Member of DMT	Director of Organisational Improvement
Name of Officer responsible for Action/PI	Economic Development Manager and Principal Economic Development Officer
Description of Action or Performance Indicators which is Red/Amber	NI 152 Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods (Seven LSOAs).
Why is the PI Amber?	Recession has resulted in net increase in benefit claimants throughout District including target LSOA's. However, this is a persistent problem in some neighbourhoods. There are difficulties in obtaining up to date accurate data which is limiting the ability to establish trends.
What has been done to improve progress in this area?	This issue has been identified by the Staffordshire LAA (indicator NI 152) and LEEP Strategy Group is overseeing responses to it. A Worklessness Action Group (WAG) has been formed to co-ordinate local initiatives across District's most deprived neighbourhoods. Bids have been submitted to secure additional resources via the Future Jobs Fund and Connections to Opportunities.
What is being planned to improve progress in this area? By when? (please include deadlines)	The WAG is currently reviewing a series of separate initiatives which are being delivered by Connexions, JobCentre Plus, Business Enterprise Support and others. A local partners conference being arranged in March 2010 will provide a co-ordinated set of initiatives via the production of an Action Plan. A Worklessness Demonstration Project is also due to commence in February which will consider the mechanisms available to tackle the worklessness issue from a 'consumer' perspective.
Are there any limitations/ blockages preventing progress in this area?	These will be identified in an Action Plan to be developed by partners through the WAG.
Is there a requirement for additional resources? If yes, why? What impact will this have? Will it need to be endorsed by a DMT and Cabinet Member?	The Action Plan to be developed by the WAG will identify such matters. Scale of impact, if any, is not known at this stage; neither is the need for Cabinet consideration.
Is this an exceptional circumstance which requires a revision to the action/target? If yes Cabinet Portfolio Lead and Lead DMT Member to consult Scrutiny Committee.	No.

Exception Report	
Rating and Reference	AMBER SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES
Name of Lead Member of DMT	Director of Organisational Improvement
Name of Officer responsible for Action/PI	Economic Development Manager and Principal Economic Development Officer with Business Link and Chamber of Commerce
Description of Action or Performance Indicators which is Amber	Ensure that local businesses have access to effective advice through the business support pages on CCDC's website and inclusion of links to partners.
Why is the Action Amber?	Some pages on Council website are in need of updating. However, work has not commenced due to current work priorities elsewhere and prolonged absence of Economic Development Manager.
What has been done to improve progress in this area?	Tourism pages have been updated and guidance relating to the recession/credit crunch added.
What is being planned to improve progress in this area? By when? (please include deadlines)	Information in need of updating is currently being identified with a view to completing task by the end of the year.
Are there any limitations/ blockages preventing progress in this area?	Staff resource currently being deployed on corporate priorities such as response to the recession, development projects (inc Town Centres), education and skills.
Is there a requirement for additional resources? If yes, why? What impact will this have? Will it need to be endorsed by a DMT and Cabinet Member?	No.
Is this an exceptional circumstance which requires a revision to the action/target? If yes Cabinet Portfolio Lead and Lead DMT Member to consult Scrutiny Committee.	No.

Exception Report	
Rating and Reference	AMBER TO CO-ORDINATE THE CANNOCK CHASE WAG TO STAGE AN EVENT TO IDENTIFY BEST PRACTICE IN TACKLING BENEFIT DEPENDENCY
Name of Lead Member of DMT	Director of Organisational Improvement
Name of Officer responsible for Action/PI	Economic Development Manager
Description of Action or Performance Indicators which is Red/Amber	To co-ordinate the Cannock Chase Worklessness Action Group to stage an event to identify best practice in tackling benefit dependency.
Why is the PI Amber?	The event was originally proposed for Autumn 2009 but staff resources had to be utilised to co-ordinate the Recovery and Beyond event at Penkridge.
What has been done to improve progress in this area?	Proposals are being developed to hold the event in March 2010.
What is being planned to improve progress in this area?	As above.
By when? (please include deadlines)	
Are there any limitations/ blockages preventing progress in this area?	None anticipated.
Is there a requirement for additional resources? If yes, why? What impact will this have? Will it need to be endorsed by a DMT and Cabinet Member?	Additional resources may be required to stage the proposed event but details are not known at this stage.
Is this an exceptional circumstance which requires a revision to the action/target? If yes Cabinet Portfolio Lead and Lead DMT Member to consult Scrutiny Committee.	No.

Exception Report	
Rating and Reference	AMBER COMMENCEMENT OF THE HEDNESFORD GATEWAY (RUGELEY ROAD) SCHEME
Name of Lead Member of DMT	Director of Organisational Improvement
Name of Officer responsible for Action/PI	Head of Planning and Regeneration and Economic Development Manager
Description of Action or Performance Indicators which is Red/Amber	Commencement of the Hednesford Gateway (Rugeley Road) Scheme.
Why is the PI Amber?	Recession has necessitated some changes to the previous proposals for this site, thus requiring a new planning application.
What has been done to improve progress in this area?	The modified proposals are considered to be less vulnerable to the effects of the recession and are linked to the proposals for the Victoria Street/Bus Station site, to ensure the maximising of regeneration benefits.
What is being planned to improve progress in this area? By when? (please include deadlines)	Subject to site assembly it is possible that the scheme could commence later in 2010.
Are there any limitations/ blockages preventing progress in this area?	None anticipated.
Is there a requirement for additional resources? If yes, why? What impact will this have? Will it need to be endorsed by a DMT and Cabinet Member?	No.
Is this an exceptional circumstance which requires a revision to the action/target? If yes Cabinet Portfolio Lead and Lead DMT Member to consult Scrutiny Committee.	No.

Exception Report	
Rating and Reference	AMBER SECURING PLANNING CONSENT FOR THE HEDNESFORD VICTORIA STREET SCHEME
Name of Lead Member of DMT	Director of Organisational Improvement
Name of Officer responsible for Action/PI	Head of Planning and Regeneration and Economic Development Manager
Description of Action or Performance Indicators which is Red/Amber	The securing of planning consent for the Hednesford Victoria Street scheme.
Why is the PI Amber?	Recession has necessitated modifications to both Phases proposed for Hednesford Town Centre, thus delaying the programme to secure planning permission.
What has been done to improve progress in this area?	There are now links between both phases to maximise deliverability and the securing of regeneration benefits. Development Agreements will impose a timescale for key activities including submission of planning application.
What is being planned to improve progress in this area? By when? (please include deadlines)	As above. Planning application now anticipated for March 2010 with determination expected by July 2010.
Are there any limitations/ blockages preventing progress in this area?	None anticipated.
Is there a requirement for additional resources? If yes, why? What impact will this have? Will it need to be endorsed by a DMT and Cabinet Member?	No.
Is this an exceptional circumstance which requires a revision to the action/target? If yes Cabinet Portfolio Lead and Lead DMT Member to consult Scrutiny Committee.	No.