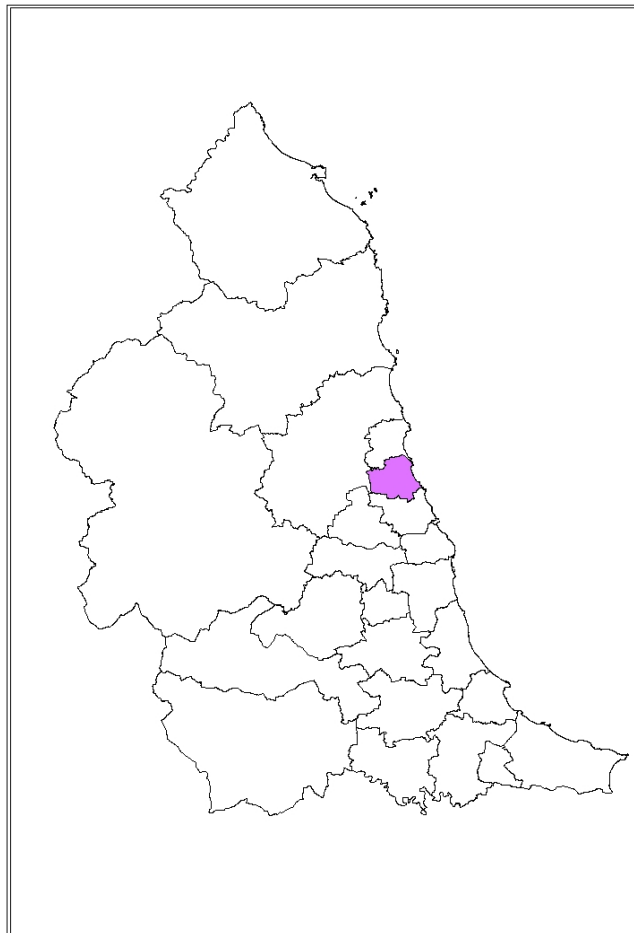




GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE NORTH EAST

Local Authority Area Profile

Blyth Valley



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Blyth Valley CPA Scorecard

CPA	Education	SC(ad)	SC (Child)	Env	Housing	Lib & Lei	Benefits	Resources	
Good	3	3	3	2	N/A	2	N/A	4	Northumberland (2003)
Good	3	3	2	2	N/A	2	N/A	3	Northumberland (2004)

Star Rating	Corporate	SC (Ad)	Child & YP	Env	Housing	Culture	Benefits	Resources	Direction of travel	
3 stars	3	3	3	3	N/A	4	N/A	2	Improving well	Northumberland (2005)
N/A	Excellent	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Blyth Valley (2004)

Northumberland County results

Corporate		CPA Score: (2002)	3
Date of assessment		Dec 2002	
Ambition	3	Achievement	3
Prioritisation	3	Investment	4
Focus	3	Learning	3
Capacity	3	Future Plans	3
Perf Mgt	2		

Level 1 services

Social Care (Adults)	CPA:	3	
Use of Resources	CPA:	2	
Children & Young People	CPA:	3	
Education			
2005/06 prov			
	English	Maths	Science
KS2 Level 4 (LEA)	78%	75%	
KS3 Level 5 (LEA)	76%	80%	76%
5 GCSEs A*-C (LEA)	61.6%		

Level 2 services

Housing	CPA:	N/A
Environment	CPA:	3
Culture	CPA:	4
Benefits	CPA:	N/A

Further information on the CPA results can be found at www.audit-commission.gov.uk/cpa

Blyth Valley Borough results

Corporate		CPA Score:	Excellent
Date of assessment		Apr 2004	
Ambition	4	Ach qual service	3
Prioritisation	4	Ach improvement	3
Focus	3	Investment	3
Capacity	3	Learning	4
Perf Mgt	3	Future Plans	3

Health		
	Male	Female
Life Expectancy	74.9	80.1
Teenage pregnancy rate	51.0	
Mortality - cancer rate	130.7	
Mortality - circulatory rate	104.5	
Mortality - suicide rate	15.1	





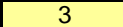



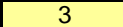



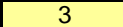


Employment & Enterprise		
	Blyth Valley	North East
Employment rate	73.4	70.5
Unemployment rate	5.6	6.2
Start-ups per 10,000	16.2	21.6
Economic Activity	77.8	75.2

Deprivation (ID 2004)	
	Rank (out of 354)
Average SOA score:	79
Average SOA rank:	92
Extent:	70
Local Concentration:	64
Income scale:	151
Employment scale:	119
Shaded if in top 50	

Crime and Drugs			
	Vehicle	Burglary	Robbery
Blyth Valley	6.4	7.1	0.5
North East	12.0	12.0	0.8
Drugs per 1,000 population			
No's in treatment	Northumberland		2.6
	North East		4.2

NRF:	None
NRF Allocation	N/A
NDC:	None
Beacon Status:	
Round 6 - Getting closer to Communities.	

Key for CPA Scorecard

Key									
<p>Performance against national results:</p> <p> Exceeds national/regional result</p> <p> Equals national/regional result</p> <p> Below national/regional result</p> <p>District results measured against regional average</p>	<p>CPA Inspection Scores:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td> 4</td> <td>Best</td> </tr> <tr> <td> 3</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> 2</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> 1</td> <td>Worst</td> </tr> </table>	 4	Best	 3		 2		 1	Worst
 4	Best								
 3									
 2									
 1	Worst								
Abbreviations									
<p>BVPI Best Value Performance Indicator</p> <p>CPA Comprehensive Performance Assessment</p> <p>ID Index of Deprivation</p> <p>LEA Local Education Authority</p> <p>NDC New Deal for Communities</p> <p>NRF Neighbourhood Renewal Funding</p>									
Summary from CPA Scorecard									
<p>Overall performance for this council - Northumberland</p> <p>This is a council for which the direction of travel assessment is subject to review and which is demonstrating a 3 star overall performance.</p> <p>Blyth Valley</p> <p>The way Blyth Valley Borough Council is run and the delivery of its services is Excellent (on the scale: excellent/good/fair/weak/poor).</p> <p>Main strengths - It has a clear vision and ambitious aims and priorities for the local area. These are based on reliable information about what local people want.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It provides good services and performs well in relation to national performance indicators. The quality of its services is improving. It responds well to suggestions about how it could do things better and is well led and managed. Its staff are encouraged to learn and to make changes that will benefit service users. <p>Areas for improvement - It needs to invest more in some parts of the organisation, such as ICT and HR, which currently restrict its capacity to improve further.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It needs to pay more attention to diversity issues to ensure that services meet the needs of the entire community <p><u>Housing services</u> were inspected in August 2005 and the service provided by Blyth Valley Housing Limited (ALMO) is 'good' and has 'promising' prospects to improve.</p>									

General Information

Blyth Valley is one of two small urban districts in South East Northumberland. The administrative centre of the district is the town of Blyth, which is Northumberland's largest town.

Historically Blyth Valley was a coal mining district and a major seaport developed to export the extracted product. The major employment sector today is 'Public administration, education and health'. Blyth Valley is an important supply base for the North Sea oil and gas fields. Nine windmills on Blyth north pier make up the 'Blyth Wind Farm', which generate electricity for the National Grid.

Population and Demographics

Blyth Valley is 70 sq km in size with a population of 81,600. Population density is 1,166 people per square kilometre.

Age Breakdown (rounded)

Age Group	Males	Females	Persons
Under 5	2,300	2,100	4,400
5 to 14	5,100	4,900	10,100
15 to 19	2,700	2,500	5,300
20 to 24	2,400	2,400	4,800
25 to 44	10,600	11,200	21,700
45 to 64	11,200	11,600	22,700
65 and over	5,400	7,100	12,500
Total	39,600	41,900	81,600

Source: Registrar General's Population Estimates for Mid-2005, Office for National Statistics updated December 2006. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Resident population (rounded)

	Blyth Valley (numbers)	North East (numbers)	England (numbers)	GB (numbers)
All people	81,600	2,558,300	50,431,700	58,485,000
Males	39,600	1,245,100	24,741,000	28,634,900
Females	41,900	1,313,200	25,690,700	29,850,200

Source: Registrar General's Population Estimates for Mid-2005, Office for National Statistics updated December 2006

Working age population (rounded) (percentages are based on total population)

	Blyth Valley (numbers)	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)	GB (%)
All people – working age	51,200	62.8	62.0	62.1
Males – working age	26,300	66.4	65.7	65.8
Females – working age	24,900	59.4	58.4	58.5

Source: Registrar General's Population Estimates for Mid-2005, Office for National Statistics updated December 2006

Population Projections

	Males	Females	Persons
2016	41,100	43,500	84,600
2026	42,200	44,900	87,100

Source: 2004-based English sub-national population projections, Office for National Statistics, updated December 2006

Ethnicity and Religion

Ethnic Group (all people)	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)
♦ White	99.0	97.6
Largest ethnic minority group	Indian (0.2)	Pakistani (0.6)
Place of birth (all people)		
♦ Born in UK	98.2	97.1
♦ Born elsewhere in EU	0.7	0.9
♦ Born outside EU	1.1	2.0
Religion (all people)		
♦ Christian	79.5	80.1
♦ Largest other religious group	Muslim (0.3)	Muslim (1.1)
♦ No religion	13.2	11.0
♦ Religion not stated	6.6	7.1

Source: Census 2001, Office for National Statistics – further information can be obtained from www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001

Household Composition

	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)
One person households	29.0	30.7
Married couple households	41.4	36.8
Cohabiting couple households	8.2	7.8
Lone parent households:		
♦ With dependent children	7.2	7.3
♦ With non-dependent children	2.9	3.4
All other households	11.4	13.9

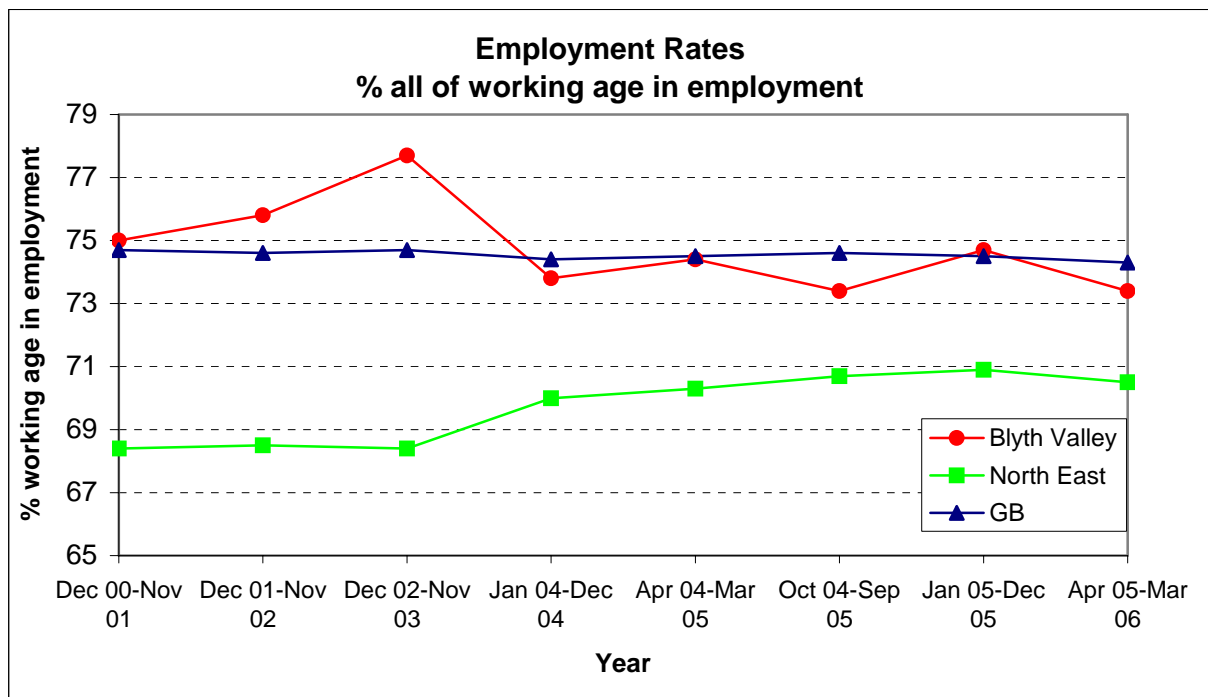
Source: Census 2001, Office for National Statistics – further information can be obtained from www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001

Economy and Employment

Work Status (working age)

Annual Population Survey Apr 2005 - Mar 2006	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)	GB (%)
Economic Activity Rate	77.8	75.2	78.3
Economic Inactivity Rate	22.2	24.8	21.7
Employment Rate	73.4	70.5	74.3
Unemployment Rate	5.6	6.2	5.0

Source: NOMIS (Annual Population Survey) – Updated December 2006



Source: NOMIS (Quarterly LFS/Annual Population Survey from Jan 04) – Updated December 2006

Working-age Benefits

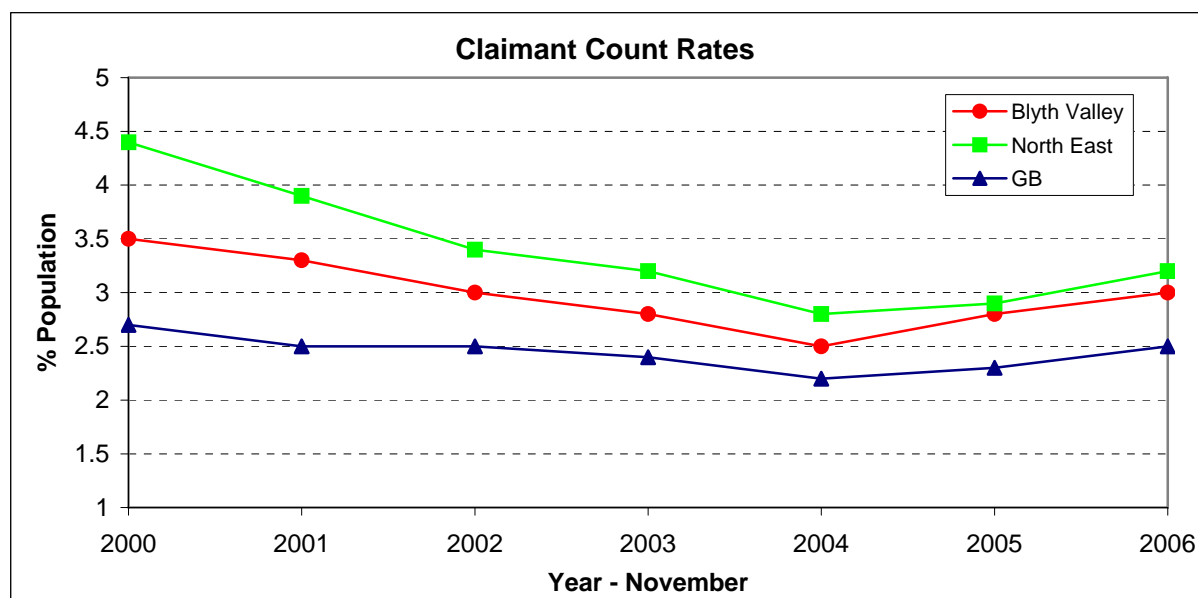
The Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) is payable to people under pensionable age who are available for, and actively seeking, work of at least 40 hours per week.

Total JSA claimants

The percentage figures show the number of JSA claimants as a proportion of the resident working-age people.

November 2006 Claimant Count	Blyth Valley (numbers)	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)	GB (%)
All people	1,537	3.0	3.2	2.5
Males	1,159	4.4	4.7	3.5
Females	378	1.5	1.6	1.4

Source: NOMIS (Claimant Count with rates and proportions) – Updated December 2006



Source: NOMIS (Claimant Count with rates and proportions) – Updated December 2006

JSA Claimants by age and duration

The percentage figures represent the number of JSA claimants in a particular category as a percentage of all JSA claimants.

November 2006 Claimant Count	Blyth Valley (numbers)	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)	GB (%)
By age of claimant				
Aged 18-24	525	34.2	33.0	29.7
Aged 25-49	705	46.0	49.3	52.7
Aged 50 and over	285	18.5	16.9	16.5
By duration of claim				
Up to 6 months	1,110	72.2	67.7	65.1
Over 6 up to 12 months	215	14.0	16.3	17.8
Over 12 months	210	13.8	15.9	17.1

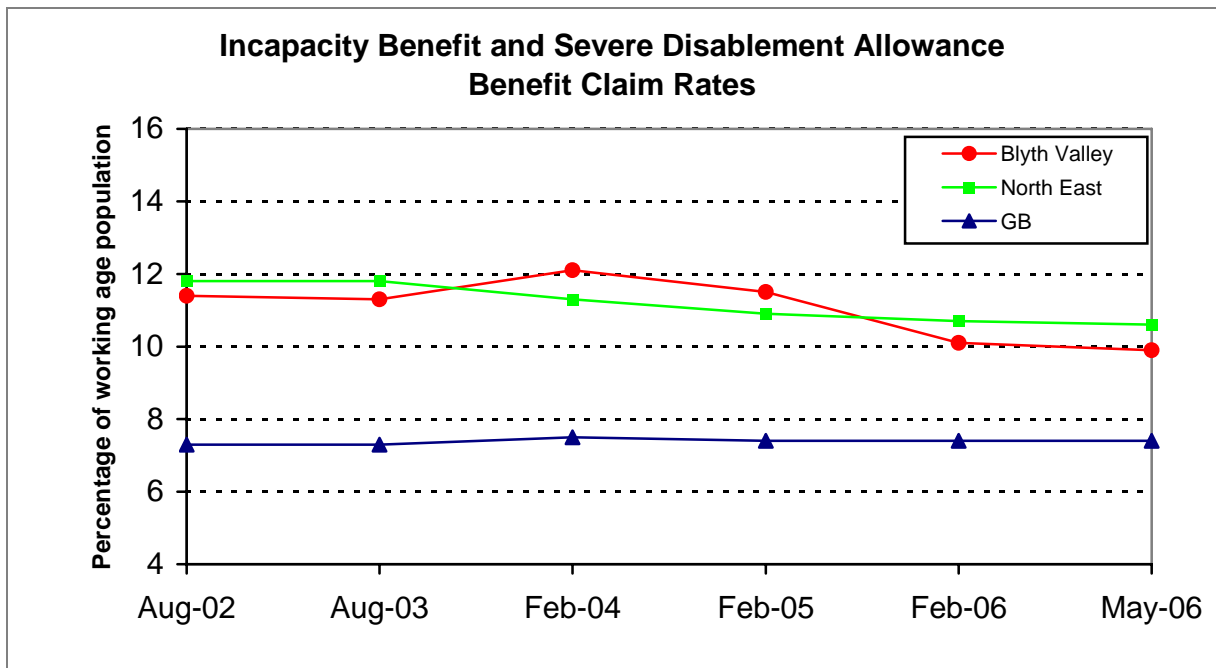
Source: NOMIS (Claimant Count with rates and proportions) – Updated December 2006

Incapacity Benefit (IB) and Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) Claim Rates

Claim rate figures represent the number of all claimants as a percentage of the mid – 2004 working age population aged 16-64 (mid-2005 population used from Feb 2006).

	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)	Great Britain (%)
All IB and SDA Claim Rates (Feb 2004)	12.1	11.3	7.5
All IB and SDA Claim Rates (Feb 2005)	11.5	10.9	7.4
All IB and SDA Claim Rates (Feb 2006)	10.1	10.7	7.4
All IB and SDA Claim Rates (May 2006)	9.9	10.6	7.4

Source: DWP website, updated January 2007



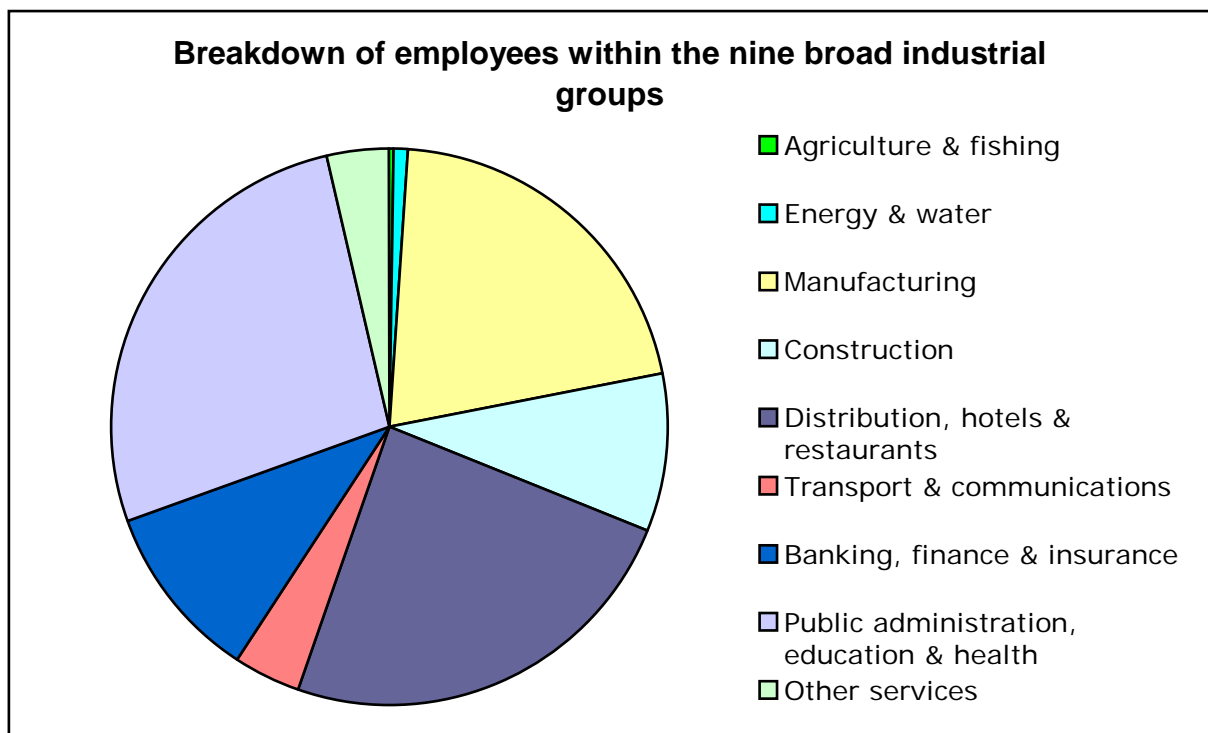
Source: DWP website, updated January 2007

Employee Analysis/Jobs Density

The following table shows a breakdown of employees within the nine broad industrial groups from the Annual Business Inquiry of 2004.

	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)	England (%)
Agriculture & fishing	0.3	0.5	0.8
Energy & water	Not available	1.0	0.5
Manufacturing	21.0	13.8	11.9
Construction	9.1	5.6	4.4
Distribution, hotels & restaurants	24.1	22.5	24.9
Transport & communications	3.8	4.6	6.0
Banking, finance & insurance	10.5	15.2	20.6
Public administration, education & health	26.8	32.0	25.8
Other services	3.7	5.0	5.1

Source: NOMIS ABI 2004 updated January 2006



Source: NOMIS ABI 2004 updated January 2006

Statistics of jobs density, a new local area labour market indicator of labour demand, have now been produced for all local authorities. Jobs density is defined as the number of filled jobs in an area divided by the working-age population resident in that area.

In Blyth Valley the jobs density is 0.49 for 2004 compared to 0.71 for the North East and 0.83 for GB.

Source: NOMIS Jobs density updated June 2006

Employment by Occupation

Percentages are based on all persons in employment.

	Blyth Valley (numbers)	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)	GB (%)
Soc 2000 major group 1-3	12,500	32.8	35.6	41.9
1 Managers & senior officials	4,900	12.8	12.3	14.9
2 Professional occupations	4,000	10.4	10.3	12.7
3 Associate professional & technical	3,600	9.6	13.0	14.3
Soc 2000 major group 4 - 5	9,000	23.5	24.2	23.4
4 Administrative & secretarial	5,800	15.2	12.3	12.5
5 Skilled trades occupations	3,200	8.3	11.9	10.9
Soc 2000 major group 6 - 7	7,600	19.8	18.3	15.6
6 Personal service occupations	4,300	11.3	8.4	7.9
7 Sales & customer service occupations	3,300	8.5	9.8	7.7
Soc 2000 major group 8 - 9	8,800	23.1	21.7	18.9
8 Process plant & machine operatives	4,500	11.7	9.0	7.5
9 Elementary occupations	4,400	11.4	12.7	11.4

Source: Annual Population Survey (Apr 2005 – Mar 2006) updated December 2006

Earnings by Workplace (2006)

The figures show the median earnings in pounds for employees working in the area who are on adult rates of pay and whose pay was not affected by absence. Figures for earnings come from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE). The ASHE is based on a 1 per cent sample of employees, information on whose earnings and hours is obtained from employers. The survey does not cover self-employed.

The earnings information collected relates to gross pay before tax, national insurance or other deductions, and excludes payments in kind.

Gross Weekly Pay (pounds)

	Blyth Valley	North East	Great Britain
Full-time workers	366.1	399.0	448.6
Male full-time workers	438.1	444.2	489.4
Female full-time workers	296.2	341.0	387.1

Source: NOMIS (Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2006) updated December 2006

Hourly Pay (pounds)

	Blyth Valley	North East	Great Britain
Full-time workers	9.64	10.05	11.24
Male full-time workers	11.22	10.85	11.88
Female full-time workers	7.92	8.92	10.26

Source: NOMIS (Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2006) updated December 2006

Headline Gross Value Added

What is Gross Value Added?

Gross Value Added (GVA) measures the contribution to a local or national economy. It is used by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to measure total economic activity and growth and is seen as a key indicator of economic performance. Under the European system of Accounts (ESA95), the term GVA is used to denote estimates that were previously known as Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The link between GVA and GDP can be briefly shown as:

$$\text{GVA} + \text{taxes on products} - \text{subsidies on products} = \text{GDP}$$

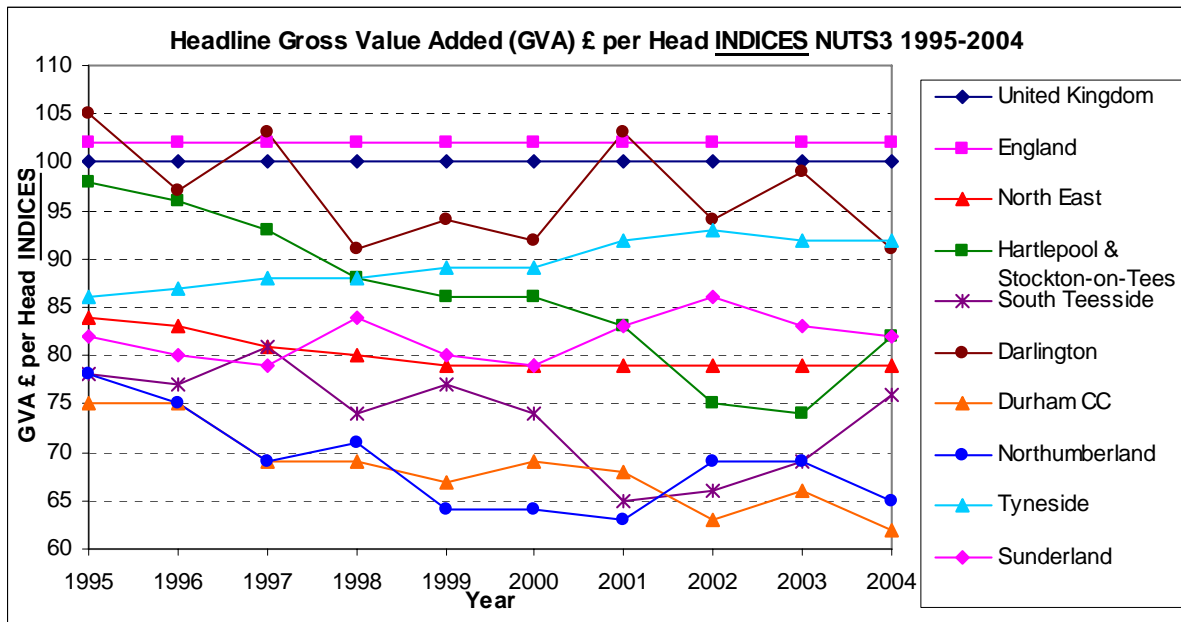
There are concerns over some aspects of the suitability of GVA for measuring economic performance at sub national geographic areas. There are issues over variations in price inflation between regions, differences in the proportion of the population that are of working age and the use of workplace based data rather than residence based effecting figures for rural areas.

North East and Sub-Regional Position

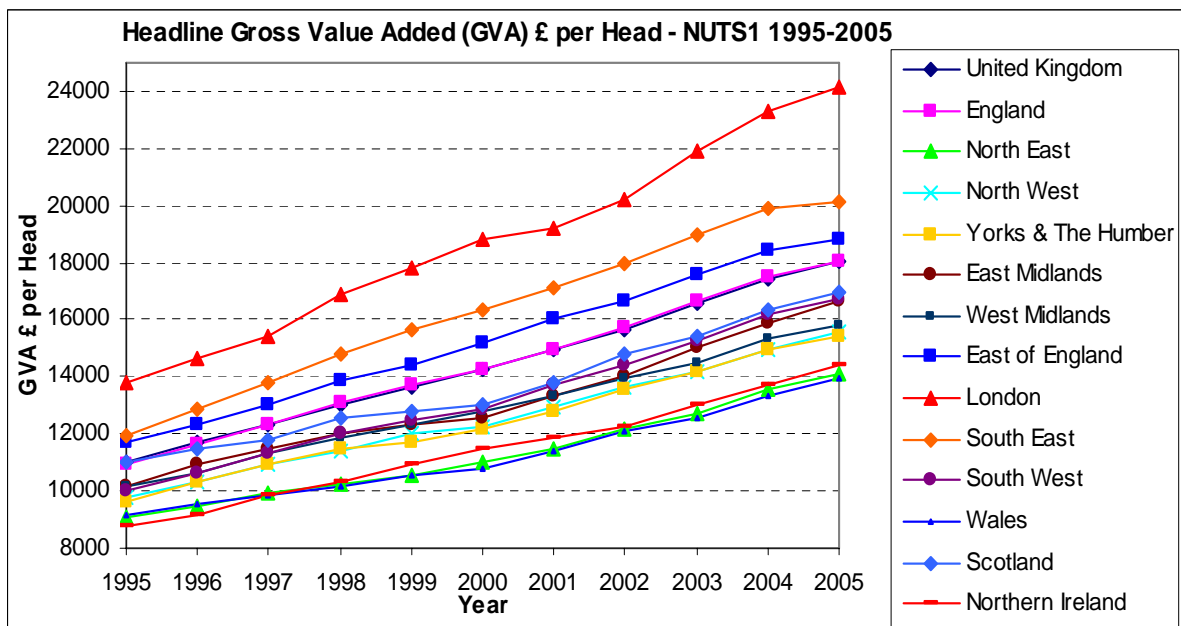
The most recent time series (1992-2005) for GVA figures from ONS show that the North East has lagged behind the English and UK average with no indication of the gap narrowing. Total GVA has been increasing in all UK regions. At current prices, the North East, East Midlands and London experienced the highest growth in total GVA between 2004 and 2005 (4.4 per cent). Most regions experienced a growth rate similar to the UK average of 3.9 per cent.

Sub-regionally the stronger performing areas centre on the main urban areas (workplace based calculation of GVA). The ONS local area geographies are Hartlepool and Stockton, South Teesside, Darlington, Durham CC, Northumberland, Tyneside, Sunderland.

Recent (03-04) GVA growth rates have shown the South Teesside (8.4%), Hartlepool & Stockton-on-Tees (6.2%), Northumberland (6%), Sunderland (5.9%) and Tyneside (5.8%) all growing slightly faster than the UK and England (5.5% each). North East growth rate 5.9%. Over a longer period the growth rates have lagged behind the UK.



Source – Revised GVA figures released December 2006, Office for National Statistics



Source – Revised GVA figures released December 2006, Office for National Statistics

VAT Registered Businesses

VAT registrations and de-registrations are the best official guide to the pattern of business start-ups and closures. They are an indicator of the level of entrepreneurship and of the health of the business population. As such they are used widely in regional and local economic planning.

The source of these figures is the Inter-Departmental Business Register (IDBR), which contains records of all businesses registered for VAT.

Percentages are based on stock (at end of year) 2005	Blyth Valley (numbers)	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)	Great Britain (%)
Registrations	105	8.5	9.6	9.7
De-registrations	100	8.1	7.7	8.3
Stock (at end of year)	1,240	-	-	-

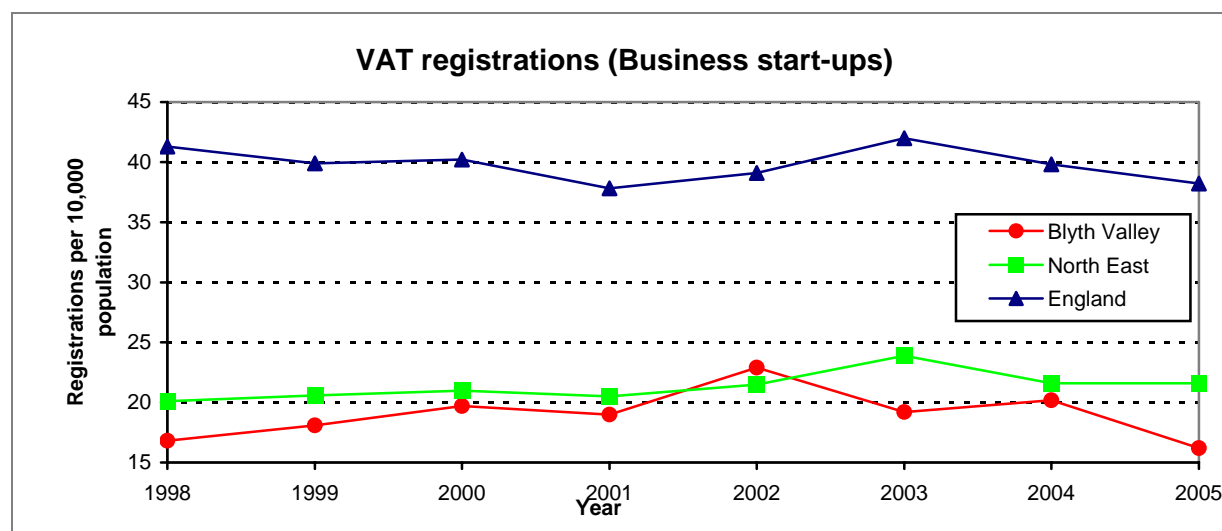
Source: IDBR VAT registrations/de-registrations by industry 2005, updated December 2006

PSA Targets

DTI has a related target (SR2004 [6]) to increase the number of people considering going into business, an improvement in the overall productivity of small firms, and more enterprise in disadvantaged communities. The SR2004 target is unchanged, although the measure for more enterprise in disadvantaged communities will be changing from VAT registration measure presented here to a measure focussing on self-employment rates in the most deprived wards, taken from the ONS Labour Force Survey. In addition ODPM, HMT and DTI share a joint target to make sustainable improvements in the economic performance and over the long term reduce the persistent gap in growth rates, defining measures to improve performance and reporting progress against these measures by 2006.

Per 10,000 adult population	Blyth Valley	North East	England
Registrations (2003)	19.2	23.9	42.0
Registrations (2004)	20.2	21.6	39.8
Registrations (2005)	16.2	21.6	38.2

Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006

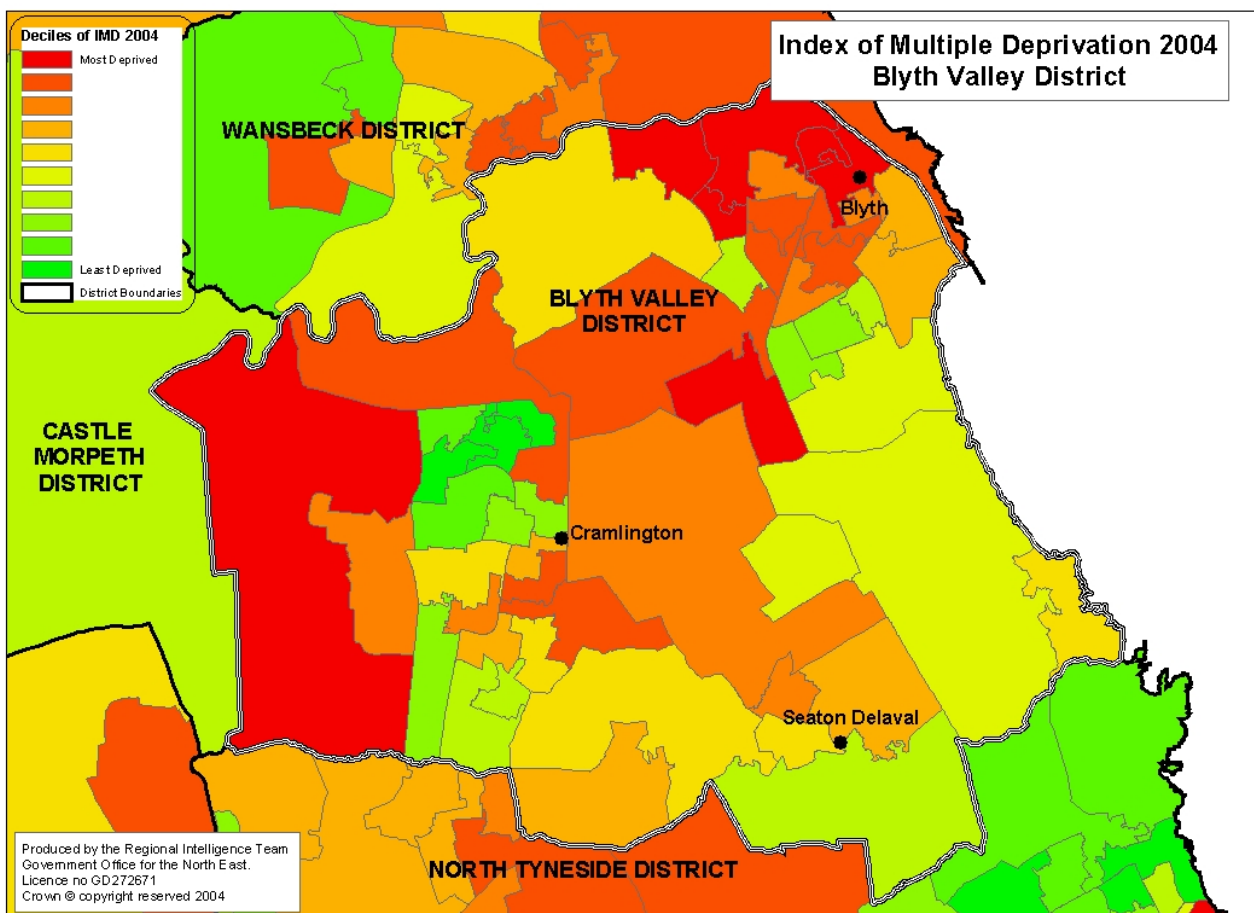


Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006

Deprivation

Index of Deprivation 2004 (ID 2004)

- Blyth Valley has 52 Super Output Areas (SOAs) in total
- 28.8% (15) of SOAs within the most deprived 20%; 13.5% (7) within the most deprived 10% in England
- 9.6% (5) SOAs within the least deprived 20%; 5.8% (3) within the least deprived 10% in England
- Blyth Valley has an average rank of 92 out of 354 districts
- 5.8% of SOAs within the most deprived 10% on the supplementary Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI); and 11.5% within the least deprived 10%
- 3.8% of SOAs within the most deprived 10% on the supplementary Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index (IDAOP); and 13.5% within the least deprived 10%



Education

Qualifications

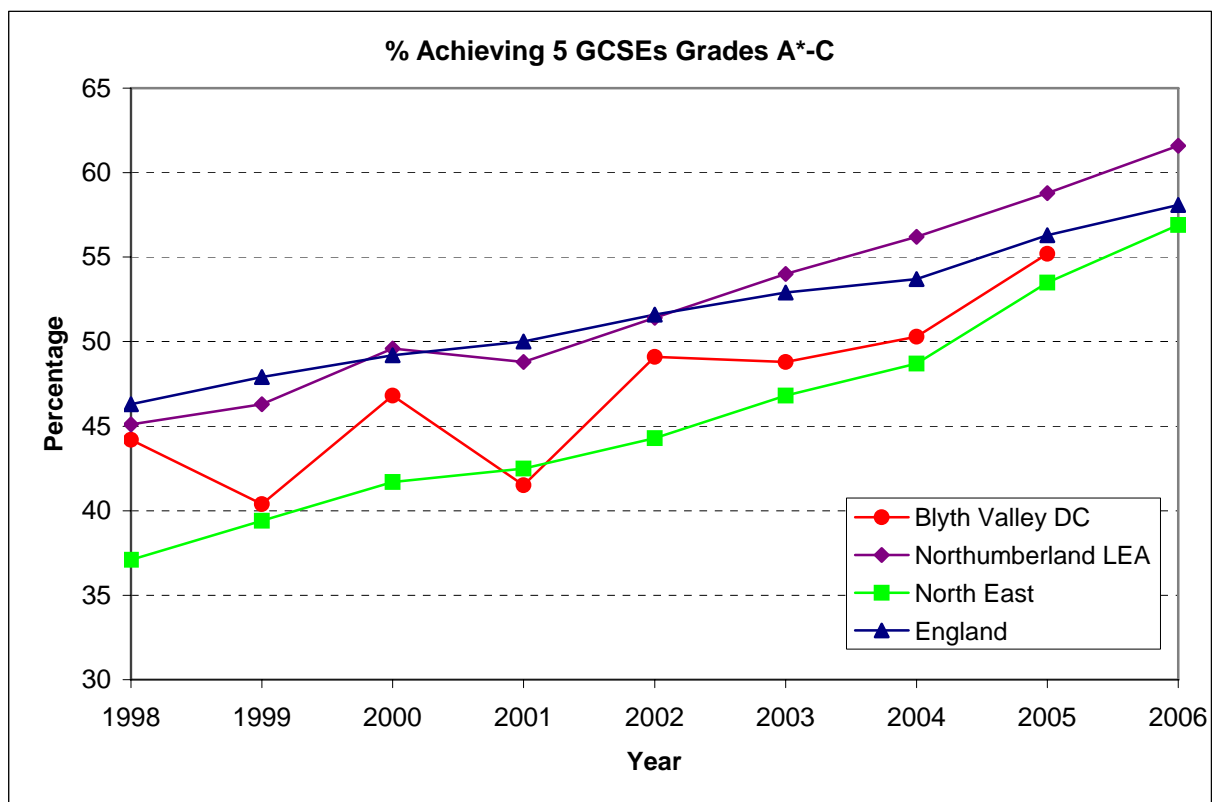
Note: Results are based on the results of the schools and not the residential location of pupils.

GCSEs

DfES (SR2004 [10]) have set a target to: By 2008, 60% of those aged 16 to achieve the equivalent of 5 GCSEs at grades A* to C; and in all schools at least 20% of pupils to achieve this standard by 2004, rising to 25% by 2006 and 30% by 2008.

Results	Blyth Valley BC (%)	Northumberland LEA (%)	North East (%)	England (%)
5 GCSEs A* to C (2003)	48.8	54.0	46.8	52.9
5 GCSEs A* to C (2004)	50.3	56.2	48.7	53.7
5 GCSEs A* to C (2005)	55.2	58.7	53.5	56.3
5 GCSEs A* to C (2006) <i>provisional</i>	NA	61.6	56.9	58.1

Source: DfES and Floor Targets Interactive websites, updated December 2006, district data not yet available



Source: DfES and Floor Targets Interactive websites, updated December 2006, district data not yet available

Key Stage 3

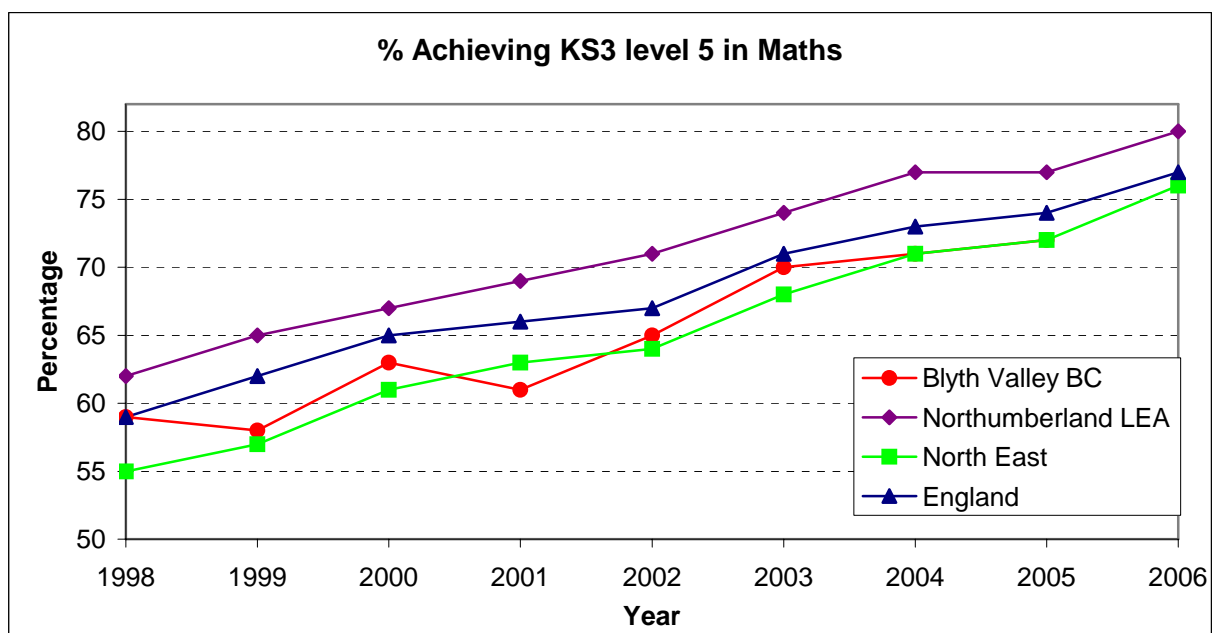
DfES (SR2004 [7]) has set a target to: Raise standards in English, maths, ICT and science in secondary education so that:

- By 2007, 85% of 14 year olds achieve level 5 or above in English, maths and ICT (80% in science) nationally, with this level of performance sustained to 2008: and
- By 2008, in all schools at least 50% of pupils achieve level 5 or above in each English, maths and science.

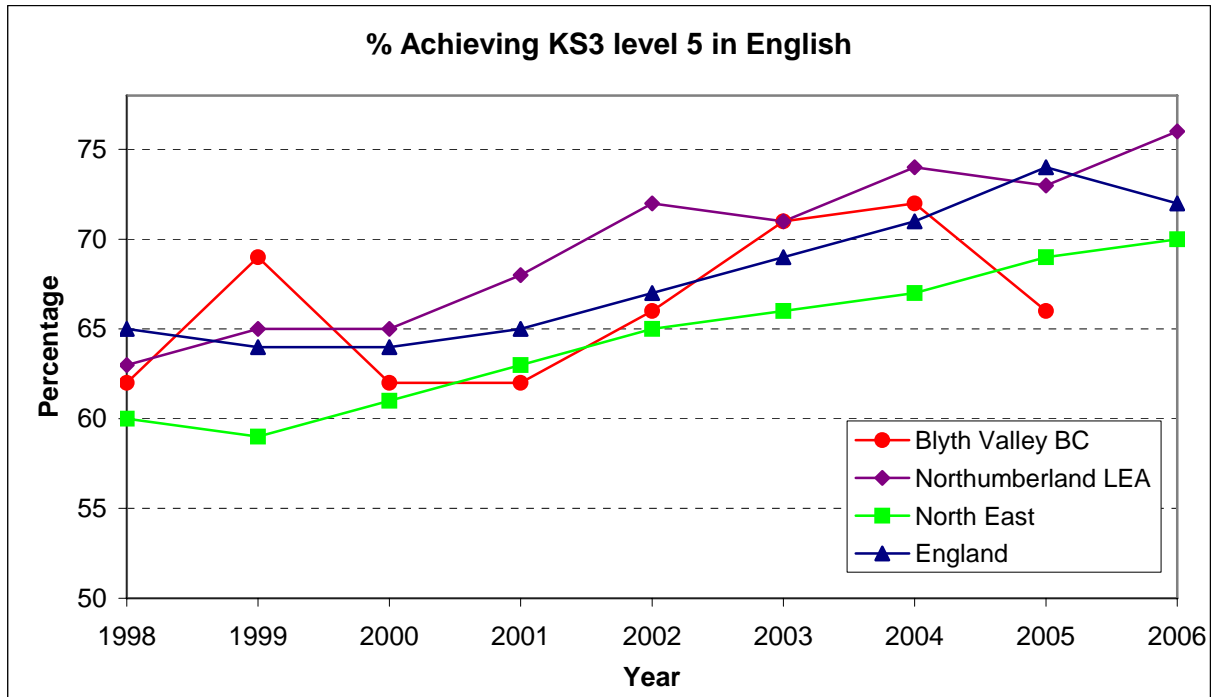
Key Stage 3 Level 5

Results	Blyth Valley BC (%)	Northumberland LEA (%)	North East (%)	England (%)
KS3 Level 5 Maths (2004)	71	77	71	73
KS3 Level 5 Maths (2005)	72	77	72	74
KS3 Level 5 Maths (2006) <i>provisional</i>	NA	80	76	77
KS3 Level 5 English (2004)	72	74	67	71
KS3 Level 5 English (2005)	66	73	69	74
KS3 Level 5 English (2006) <i>provisional</i>	NA	76	70	72
KS3 Level 5 Science (2004)	62	71	63	66
KS3 Level 5 Science (2005)	67	72	67	70
KS3 Level 5 Science (2006) <i>provisional</i>	NA	76	70	72

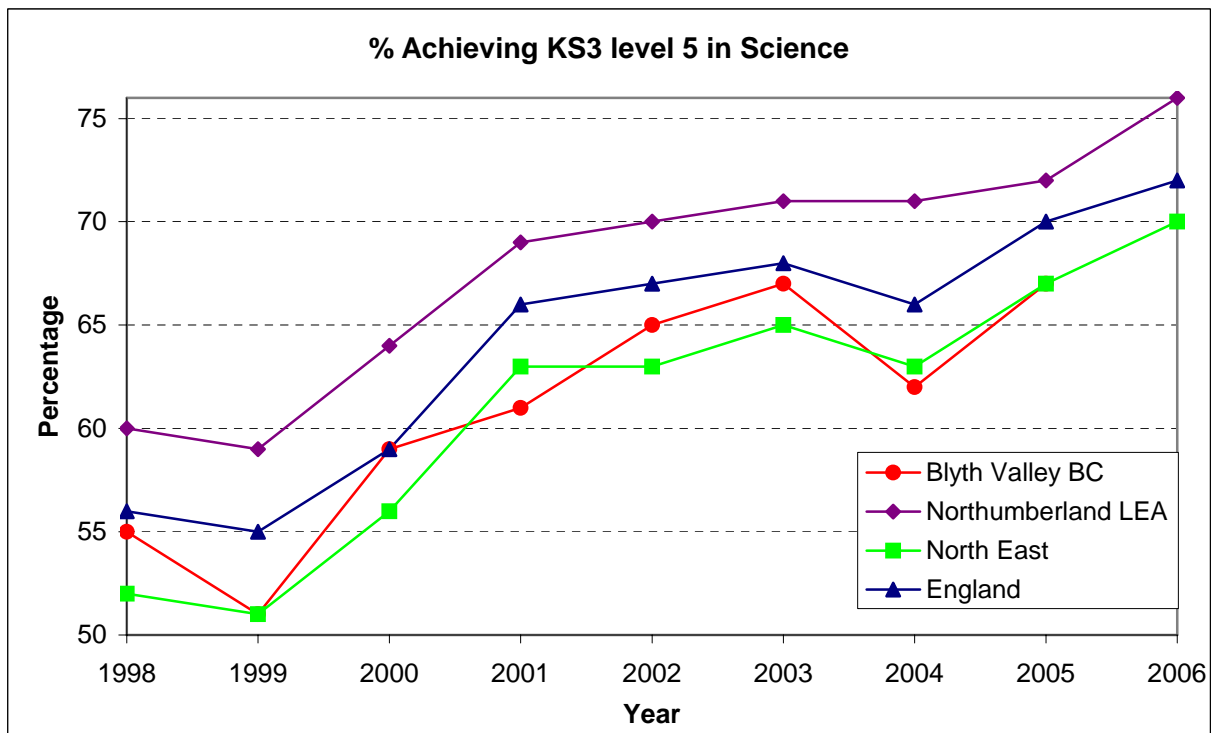
Source: DfES and Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006, district data not yet available



Source: DfES and Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006, district data not yet available



Source: DfES and Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006, district data not yet available



Source: DfES and Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006, district data not yet available

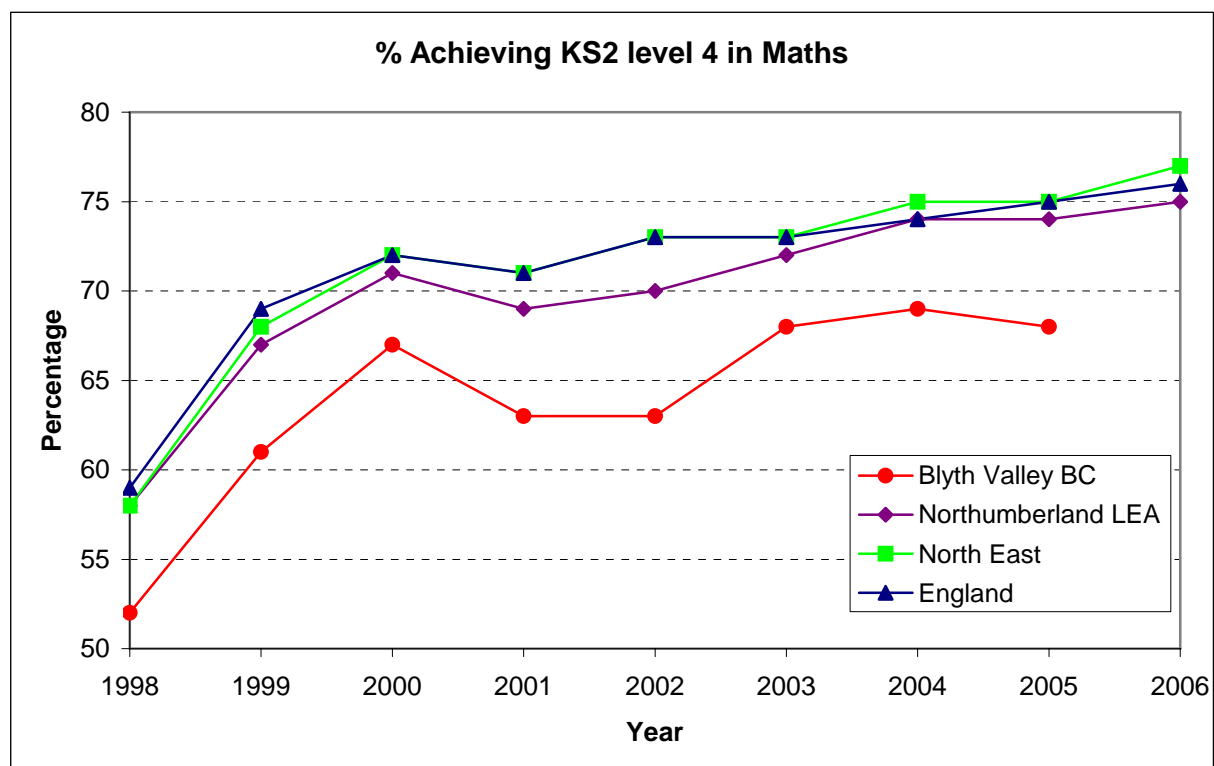
Key Stage 2

DfES (SR2004 [6]) has a target to: Raise standards in English and maths so that by 2006, 85% of 11 year olds achieve level 4 or above, with this level of performance sustained to 2008; and by 2008, the proportion of schools in which fewer than 65% of pupils achieve level 4 or above is reduced by 40%.

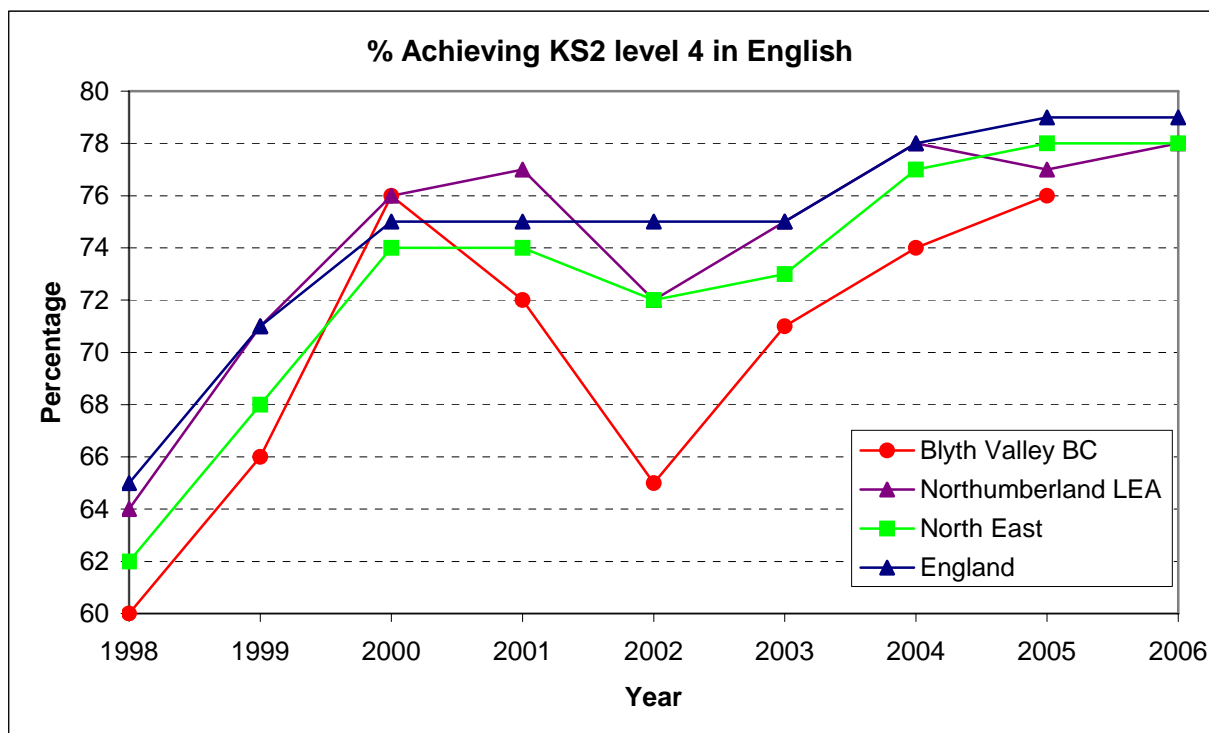
Key Stage 2 Level 4

Results	Blyth Valley BC (%)	Northumberland LEA (%)	North East (%)	England (%)
KS2 Level 4 Maths (2004)	69	74	75	74
KS2 Level 4 Maths (2005)	68	74	75	75
KS2 Level 4 Maths (2006) <i>provisional</i>	NA	75	77	76
KS2 Level 4 English (2004)	74	78	77	78
KS2 Level 4 English (2005)	76	77	78	79
KS2 Level 4 English (2006) <i>provisional</i>	NA	78	78	79

Source: DfES and Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006, district data not yet available



Source: DfES and Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006, district data not yet available



Source: DfES and Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006, district data not yet available

All Qualifications (of those of working age)

	Blyth Valley (numbers)	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)	GB (%)
NVQ4 and above	10,000	19.4	21.3	26.5
NVQ3 and above	20,700	40.1	40.3	44.4
NVQ2 and above	33,700	65.3	62.2	62.9
NVQ1 and above	40,600	78.8	77.7	77.2
Other Qualifications	3,900	7.6	6.6	8.4
No Qualifications	7,000	13.6	15.6	14.3

Source: Annual Population Survey (Jan 2005 – Dec 2005)

NVQ4 and above – e.g. HND, Degree and Higher Degree level qualifications or equivalent

NVQ3 and above – e.g. 2 or more A levels, advanced GNVQ, NVQ3, 2 or more higher or advanced national qualifications (Scotland) or equivalent

NVQ2 and above – e.g. 5 or more GCSEs at grades A-C, intermediate GNVQ, NVQ2, intermediate 2 national qualifications (Scotland) or equivalent

NVQ1 and above – e.g. fewer than 5 GCSEs at grades A-C, foundation GNVQ, NVQ1, intermediate 1 national qualification (Scotland) or equivalent

Other qualifications – includes foreign qualifications and some professional qualifications

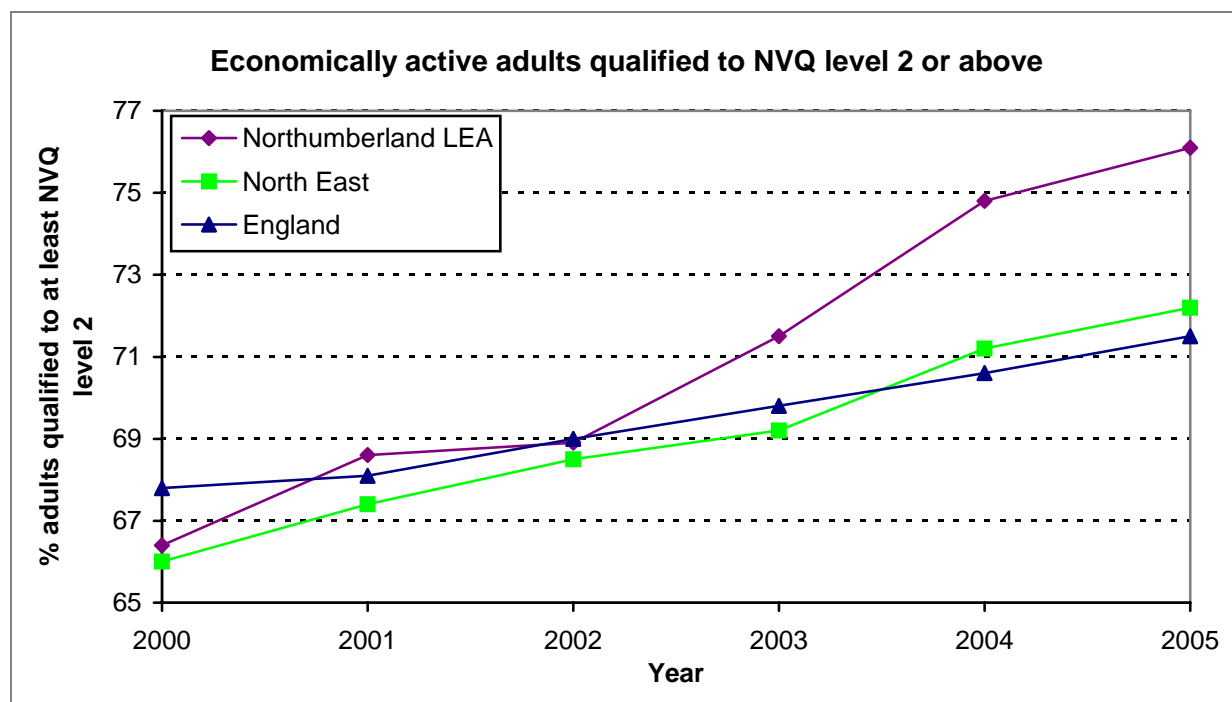
No qualifications – no formal qualifications held

Adult Education

DfES (SR2004 [13]) has a target to: Increase the number of adults with the skills required for employability and progression to higher levels of training through improving the basic skills levels of 2.25 million adults between the launch of Skills for Life in 2001 and 2010, with a milestone of 1.5 million in 2007; and reducing by at least 40% the number of adults in the workforce who lack NVQ2 or equivalent qualifications by 2010. Working towards this; one million adults in the workforce to achieve level 2 between 2003 and 2006.

Results	Blyth Valley (Northumberland LEA) (%)	North East (%)	England (%)
Economically active adults of working age qualified to NVQ level 2 or above (2003)	71.5	69.2	69.8
Economically active adults of working age qualified to NVQ level 2 or above (2004)	74.8	71.2	70.6
Economically active adults of working age qualified to NVQ level 2 or above (2005)	76.1	72.2	71.5

Source: Regional Outcome Indicators, updated January 2007



Source: Regional Outcome Indicators, updated January 2007

OFSTED Report (short extract) – June 2003

‘Northumberland LEA Inspection Report’ – OFSTED

“In 2003/2004, Northumberland’s Standard Spending Assessment (SSA) for primary and secondary education was broadly in line with the average for its statistical neighbours and other counties, though it was more than eight per cent below the national average.

When inspected for the first time in 1999, the overall effectiveness of the LEA was satisfactory. Not all functions of the LEA were covered at that time. Since then, the rate of progress and improvement in the education directorate has been too slow and is unsatisfactory. Performance has deteriorated in some important areas, and a number of key strategic functions are unsatisfactory, as are several functions not inspected previously. The LEA has not only been slow in responding to some of the recommendations in the previous expectations. It still does not direct resources effectively at identified priorities and strategies to secure continuous improvement remain unsatisfactory. Strategic capability is limited and the overall effectiveness of the LEA is now unsatisfactory.

Standards in the county’s schools are currently in line with national averages. However, the LEA has limited capacity to support schools in improving further because it has only recently established its own role in monitoring and challenging the performance of schools and because there are weaknesses in the leadership and strategic planning of services to support school improvement. Furthermore, the support provided by the LEA in order to raise the attainment of several groups of pupils at risk of underachievement is inadequate. It has insufficient data about the progress of such pupils to inform the planning, monitoring and evaluation of this support. The LEA did not meet its statutory obligations in respect of pupils with special educational needs (SEN) in 2002/2003. In addition, it does not meet its statutory obligations for those pupils who have no school place.”

To view the full report, follow this link:

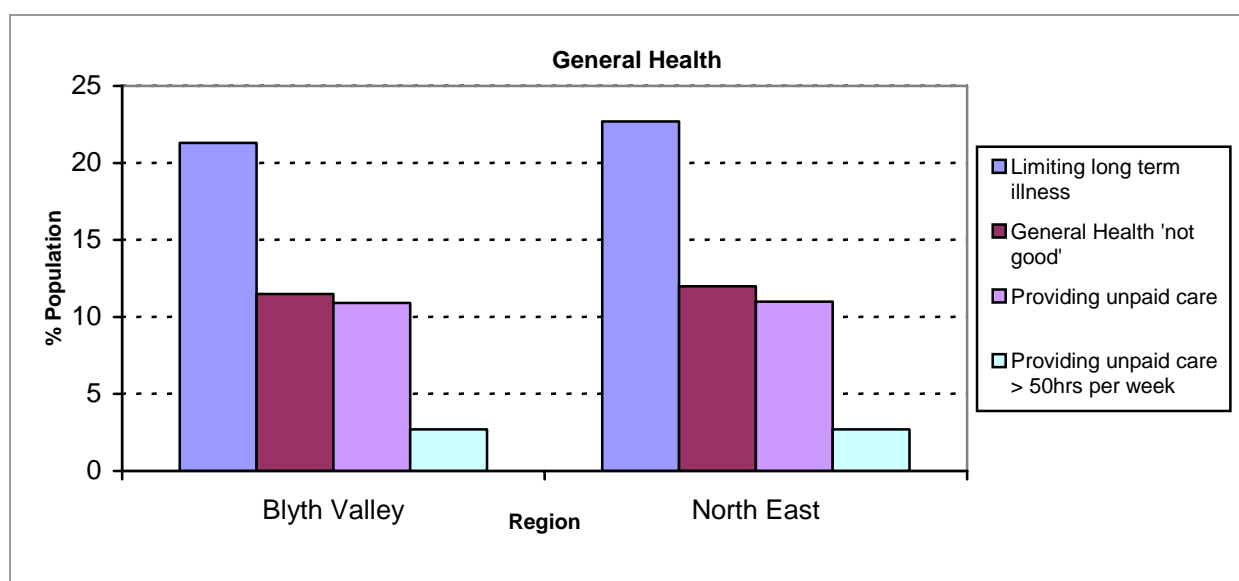
http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/reports/pdf/?inspectionNumber=434&providerCategoryID=0&fileName=\\LA\\la_929_2003.pdf

Health

General Health

	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)
Limiting Long-term illness	21.3	22.7
General health 'not good'	11.5	12.0
Providing unpaid care	10.9	11.0
Providing unpaid care >50hrs per week	2.7	2.7

Source: Census 2001, Office for National Statistics



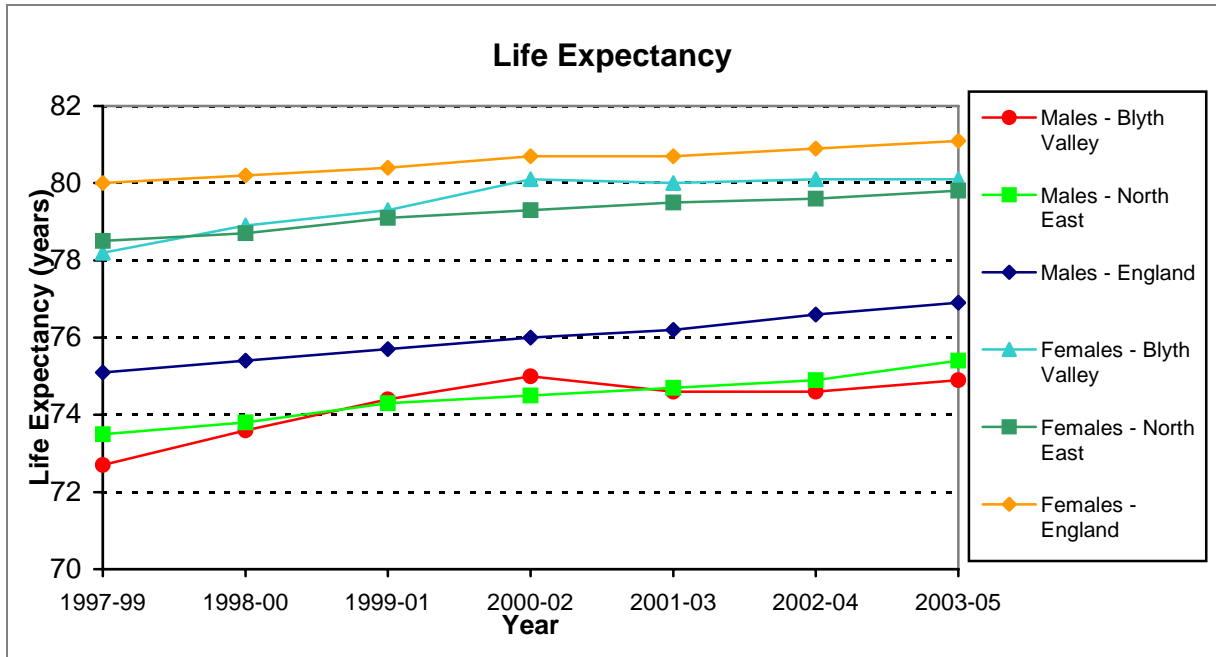
Source: Census 2001, Office for National Statistics

Life Expectancy

DH (SR2004 [2]) have set a target to: Reduce health inequalities by 10% by 2010 as measured by infant mortality and life expectancy at birth.

At Birth	Blyth Valley (years)	North East (years)	England (years)
Males (2000-2002)	75.0	74.5	76.0
Males (2001-2003)	74.6	74.7	76.2
Males (2002-2004)	74.6	74.9	76.6
Males (2003-2005)	74.9	75.4	76.9
Females (2000-2002)	80.1	79.3	80.7
Females (2001-2003)	80.0	79.5	80.7
Females (2002-2004)	80.1	79.6	80.9
Females (2003-2005)	80.1	79.8	81.1

Source: Floor Targets Interactive website; updated January 2007



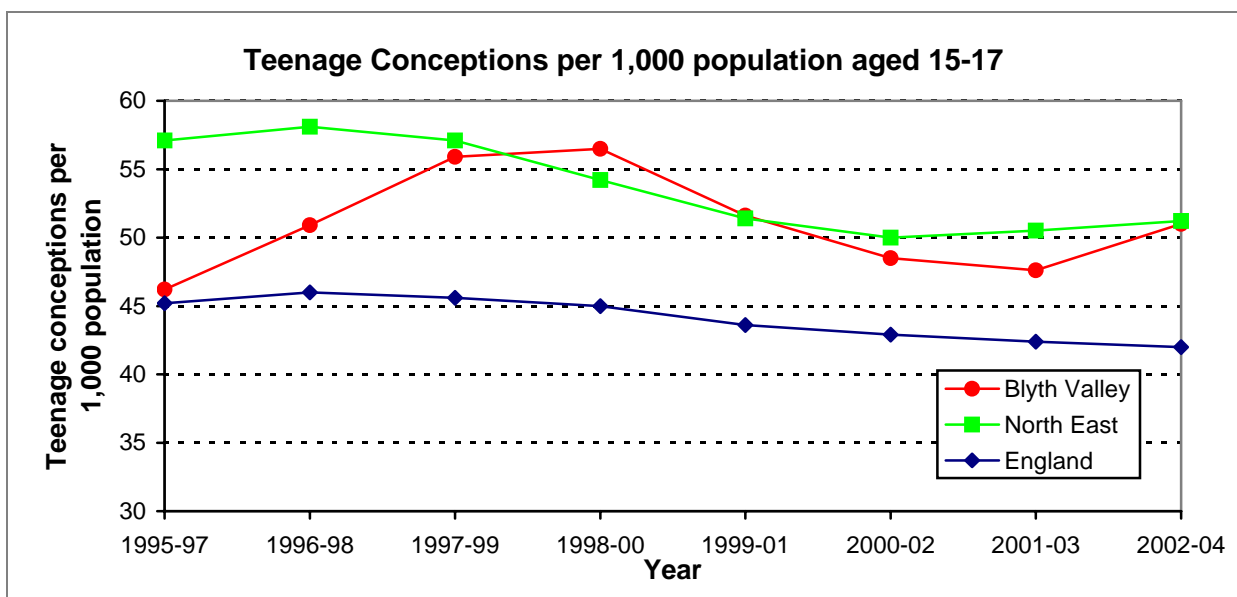
Source: Floor Targets Interactive website; updated January 2007

Teenage Conceptions

DH (SR2004 [3]) has a joint target with the DfES (SR2004 [3]) to: reduce the under-18 conception rate by 50% by 2010 as part of a broader strategy to improve sexual health.

Per 1,000 15-17 Population	Blyth Valley (conceptions)	North East (conceptions)	England (conceptions)
1999 – 2001 average	51.6	51.4	43.6
2000 – 2002 average	48.5	50.0	42.9
2001 – 2003 average	47.6	50.5	42.4
2002 – 2004 average	51.0	51.2	42.0

Source: Floor Targets Interactive website; updated January 2007



Source: Floor Targets Interactive website; updated January 2007

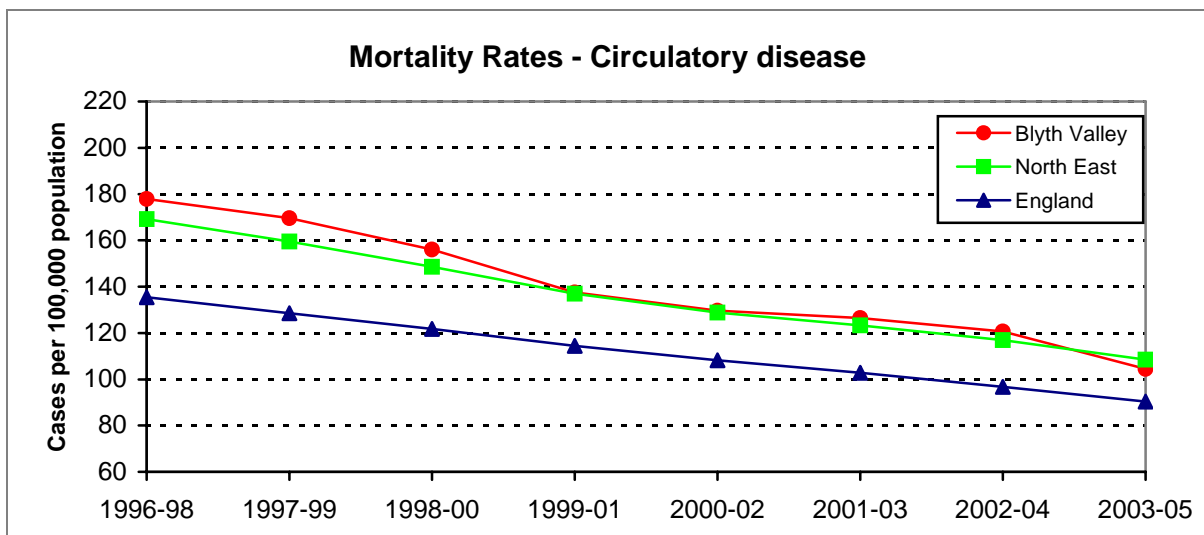
Mortality Rates

DH (SR2004 [1]) has set a target to: Substantially reduce mortality rates by 2010:

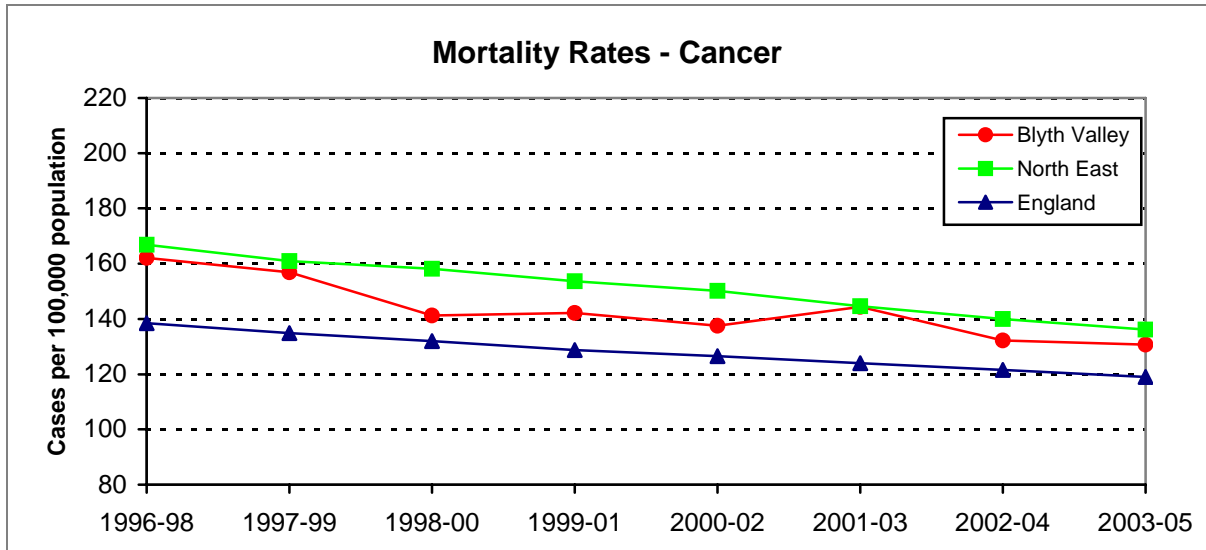
- From heart disease, stroke and related diseases by at least 40% in people under 75, with at least a 40% reduction in the inequalities gap between the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators and the population as a whole
- From cancer by at least 20% in people under 75, with at least a 6% reduction in the inequalities gap between the fifth of areas with the worst health and deprivation indicators and the population as a whole; and from suicide and undetermined injury by at least 20%.

	Blyth Valley (deaths)	North East (deaths)	England (deaths)
Circulatory disease per 100,000 population <75 (2001-03)	126.4	123.3	102.8
Circulatory disease per 100,000 population <75 (2002-04)	120.7	116.9	96.7
Circulatory disease per 100,000 population <75 (2003-05)	104.5	108.5	90.4
Cancer per 100,000 population <75 (2001-03)	144.4	144.6	124.0
Cancer per 100,000 population <75 (2002-04)	132.2	140.0	121.6
Cancer per 100,000 population <75 (2003-05)	130.7	136.2	119.0

Source: Floor Targets Interactive website updated January 2007



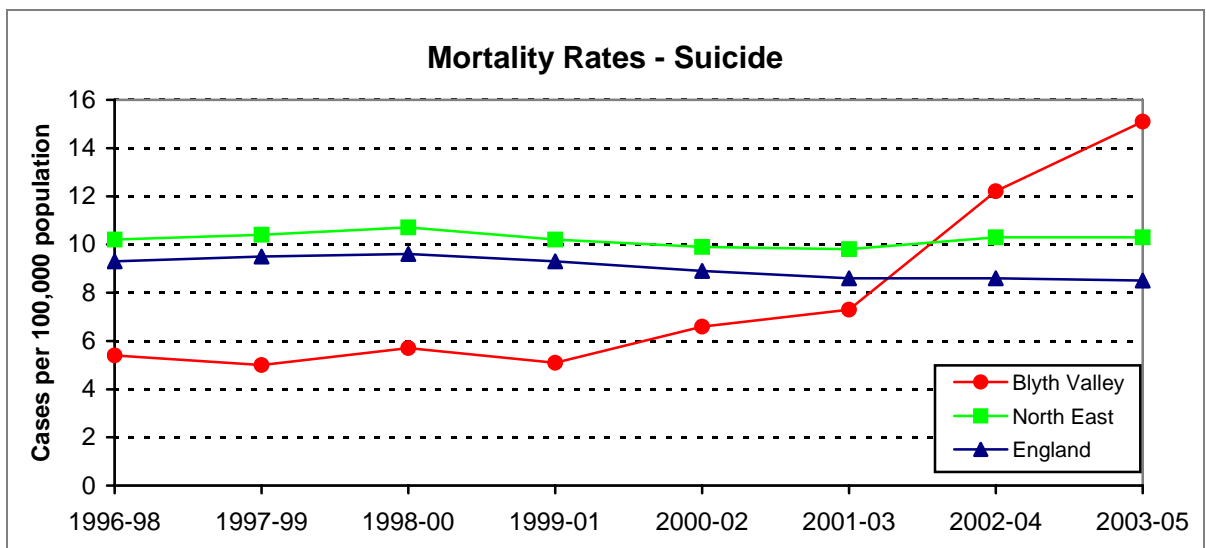
Source: Floor Targets Interactive website updated January 2007



Source: Floor Targets Interactive website updated January 2007

	Blyth Valley (deaths)	North East (deaths)	England (deaths)
Suicide mortality rates per 100,000 population (2001-03)	7.3	9.8	8.6
Suicide mortality rates per 100,000 population (2002-04)	12.2	10.3	8.6
Suicide mortality rates per 100,000 population (2003-05)	15.1	10.3	8.5

Source: Floor Targets Interactive website updated January 2007



Source: Floor Targets Interactive website updated January 2007

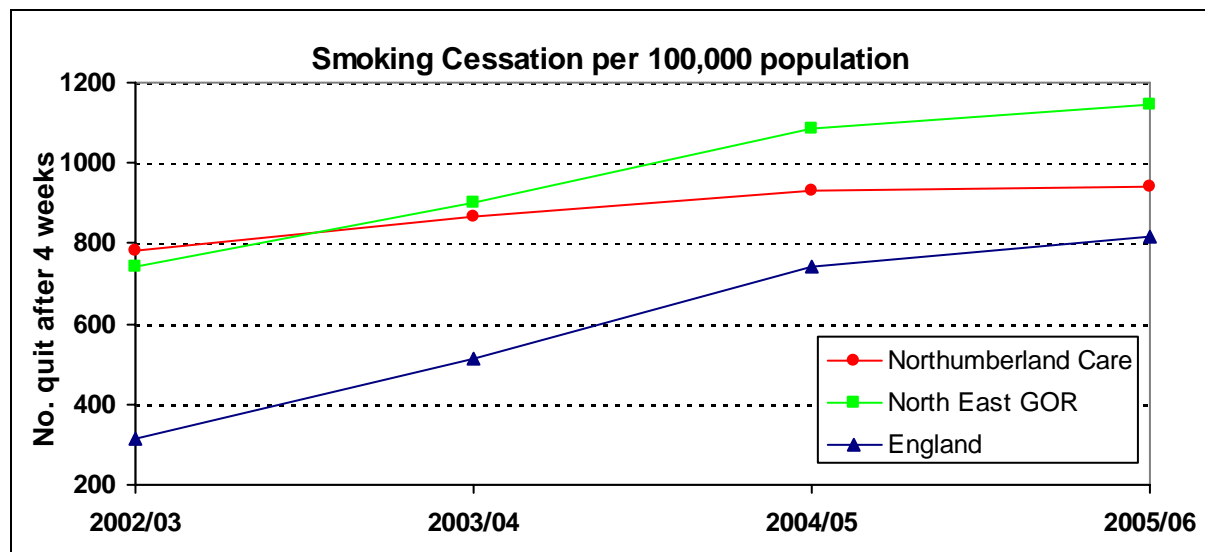
Smoking Cessation

DH (SR2004 [3]) has set a target to: Reduce adult smoking rates to 21% or less by 2010, with a reduction in prevalence among routine and manual groups to 26% or less

No data on smoking cessation available at Local Authority level. Data presented is for Strategic Health Authorities and Primary Care Trusts.

Smoking Cessation	Number successfully quit at 4 week follow-up (self report) 2002/03	Number of successfully quit (self-report) per 100,000 population aged 16 and over 02/03	Number successfully quit at 4 week follow-up (self report) 2003/04	Number of successfully quit (self-report) per 100,000 population aged 16 and over 03/04	Number successfully quit at 4 week follow-up (self report) 2004/05	Number of successfully quit (self-report) per 100,000 population aged 16 and over 04/05	Number successfully quit at 4 week follow-up (self report) 2005/06	Number of successfully quit (self-report) per 100,000 population aged 16 and over 05/06
County Durham & Tees Valley SHA	6,464	702	8,601	934	11,159	1,212	11,235	1,214
Darlington	532	682	581	744	670	852	734	928
Derwentside	191	278	591	860	671	966	608	868
Durham and Chester-le-Street	726	622	1,013	868	1,092	921	1,046	872
Durham Dales	400	576	684	985	962	1,378	990	1,406
Easington	843	1132	1,075	1,443	1,254	1,690	1,347	1,808
Hartlepool	573	826	1,078	1,555	1,108	1,559	1,328	1,865
Langbaurgh	602	773	650	835	863	1,087	952	1,191
Middlesborough	1,049	762	1,032	750	2,093	1,476	1,779	1,262
North Tees	1,056	750	1,202	854	1,564	1,059	1,551	1,047
Sedgfield	492	706	695	997	882	1,255	900	1,270
Northumberland, Tyne & Wear SHA	8,523	752	9,910	875	11,262	994	12,413	1,089
Gateshead	1,268	822	1,536	996	1,608	1,037	1,530	982
Newcastle	1,185	562	1,588	753	1,929	882	2,342	1,054
North Tyneside	1,292	834	1,469	948	1,604	1,034	1,907	1,228
Northumberland Care	1,945	780	2,156	865	2,355	932	2,399	942
South Tyneside	1,038	853	1,095	899	1,191	973	1,528	1,245
Sunderland Teaching	1,795	799	2,066	920	2,575	1,126	2,707	1,181
North East GOR	14,987	740	18,511	901	22,421	1,086	23,648	1,145
England Total	124,082	312	204,876	512	298,124	744	329,699	817

Source: Department of Health, updated January 2007



Source: Department of Health, updated January 2007

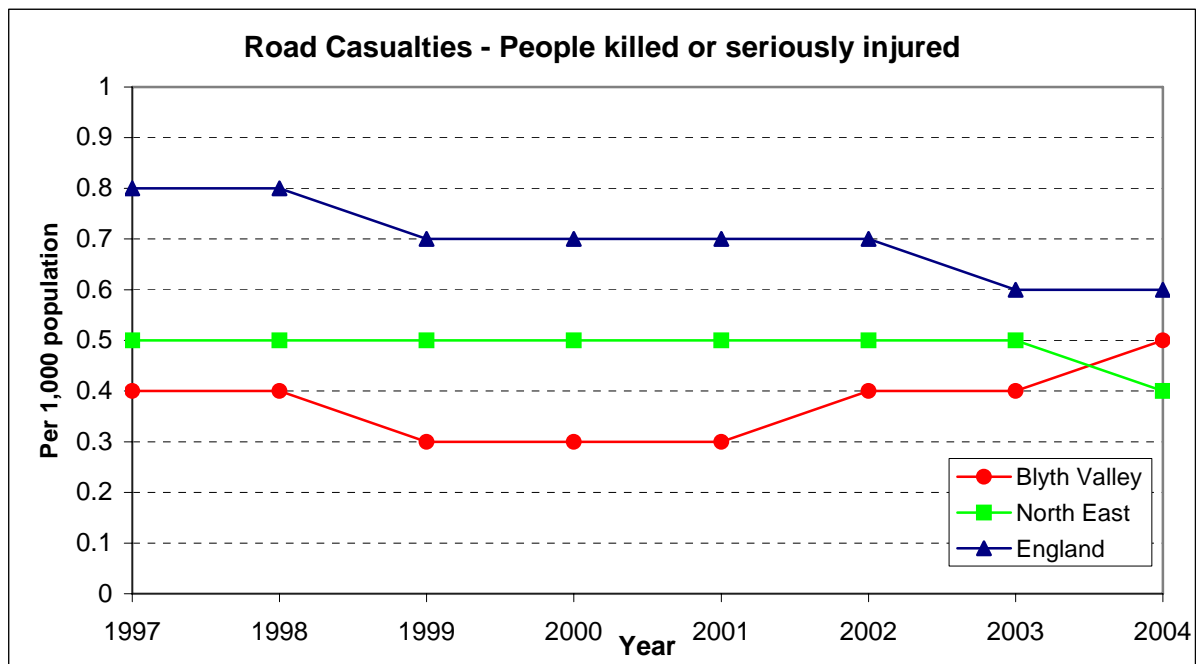
Transport

Road Casualties: people killed or seriously injured

DfT (SR2004 [5]) have a target to: Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in Great Britain 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, tackling the significantly higher incidence in disadvantaged communities. The reference to disadvantaged communities was added following SR2002. Initially DfT is focusing attention on a group of 15 authorities in the North West, the Midlands and Yorkshire that have some of the highest child pedestrian casualty rates in England, but all local highway authorities have been asked to highlight relevant problems and proposals in their Local Transport Plan Annual Progress Reports.

People KSI per 1,000 population	Blyth Valley (casualties)	North East (casualties)	England (casualties)
2003	0.4	0.5	0.6
2004	0.4	0.5	0.6
2005	0.5	0.4	0.6

Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006

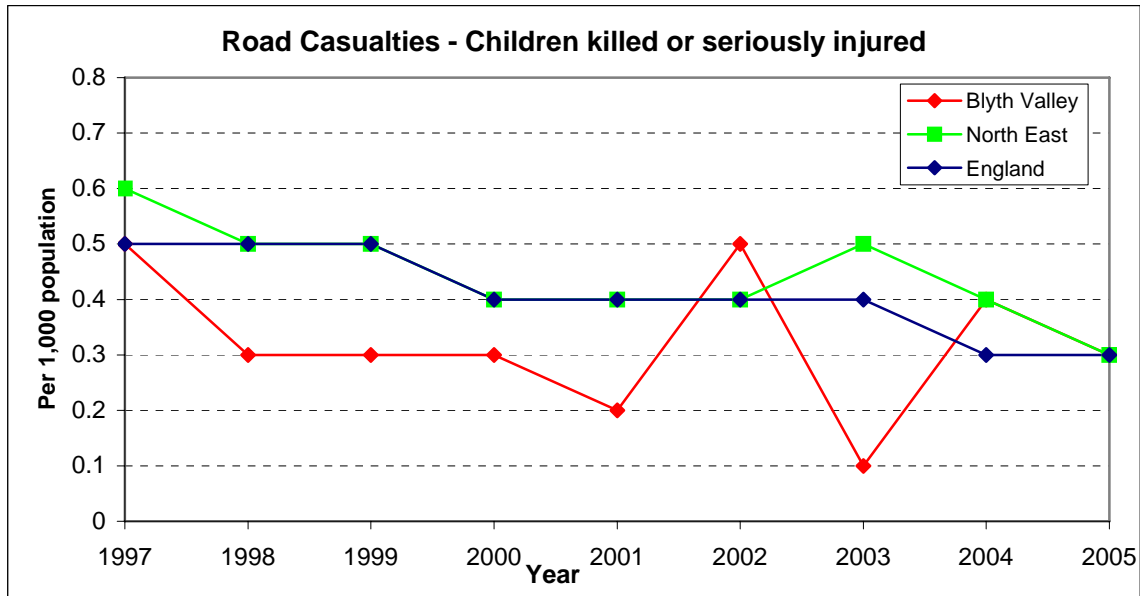


Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006

Road Casualties: children killed or seriously injured

Children KSI per 1,000 population	Blyth Valley (casualties)	North East (casualties)	England (casualties)
2003	0.1	0.5	0.4
2004	0.4	0.4	0.3
2005	0.3	0.3	0.3

Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006



Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, updated December 2006

Local Transport Plan

In March 2006 Northumberland County Council published its second Local Transport Plan for the period 2006-2011.

The full plan can be accessed through the following link: -

http://pscm.northumberland.gov.uk/portal/page?_pageid=86,52887&_dad=portal92&_schema=PORTAL92&pid=90016

Funding

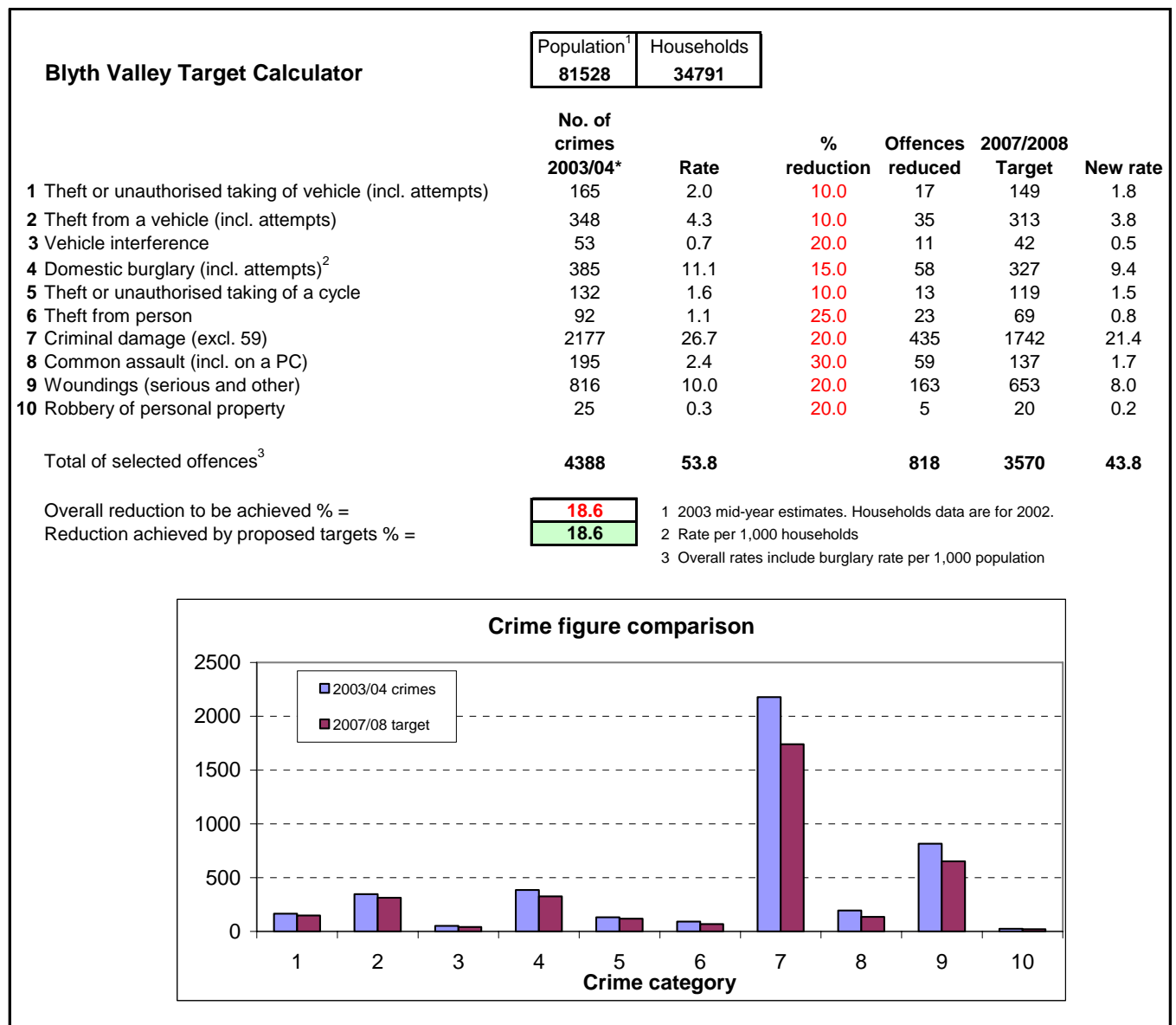
The 2006/07 settlement for Northumberland is £19.421 million. This covers all items of transport capital expenditure other than major schemes. The total figure comprises £15.976 million for maintenance and £3.445 million for integrated transport.

Community Safety

The Home Office has set a national target to reduce overall crime by 15% (PSA 1) and further in high crime areas by 2007-08. This Community Safety Partnership has a target to reduce overall crime by 18.6%, as measured by the British Crime Survey Comparator.

The British Crime Survey Comparator is the suite of statistics the police record that cover the crime types most similar to those captured by the British Crime Survey. These crime types cover about 60% of all recorded crime.

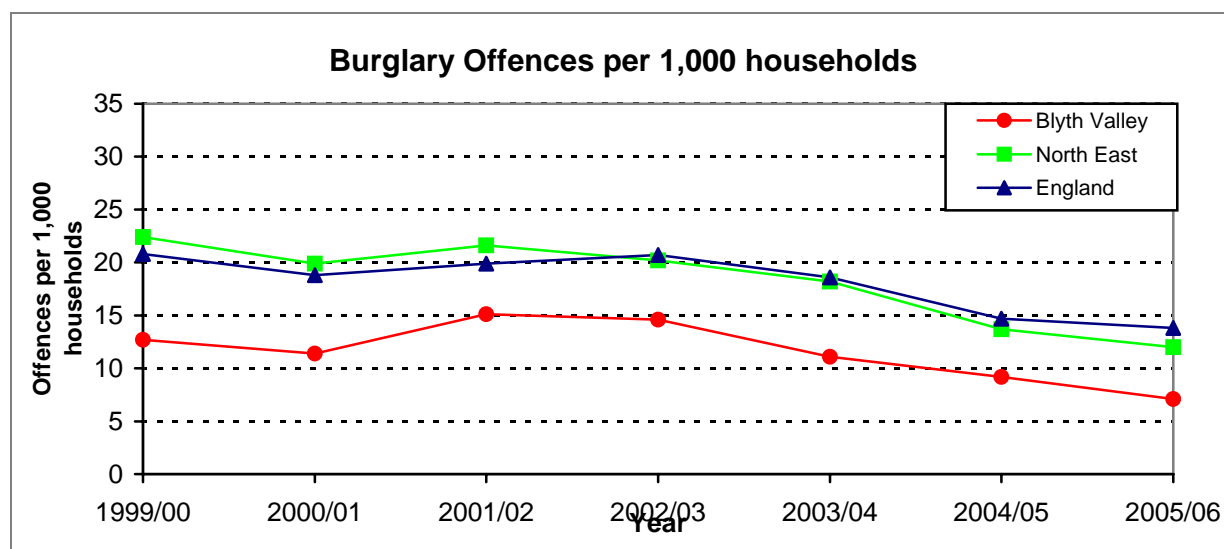
The following table outlines the 2003/4 baseline figures and the new levels of recorded crime that are required to achieve the agreed targets by 2007/8.



Source: *Crime in England & Wales 2003/04 (Home Office published statistics)

Burglary Offences per 1,000 households	Blyth Valley (offences)	North East (offences)	England (offences)
2002/03	14.6	20.2	20.7
2003/04	11.1	18.2	18.6
2004/05	9.2	13.7	14.7
2005/06	7.1	12.0	13.8

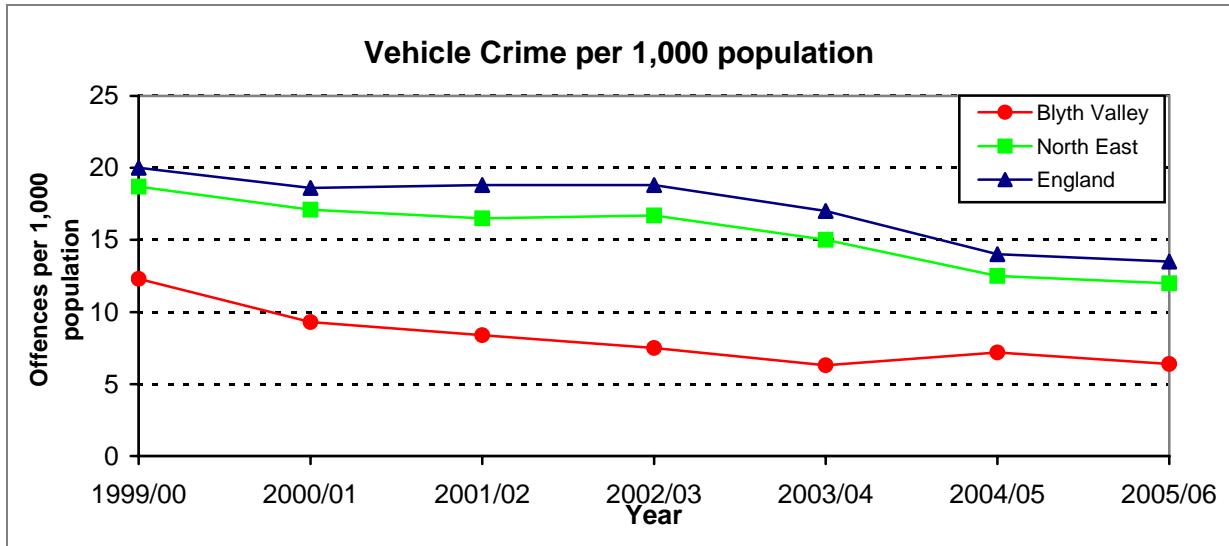
Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, Neighbourhood Renewal Unit, updated December 2006



Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, Neighbourhood Renewal Unit, updated December 2006

Vehicle Crime per 1,000 population	Blyth Valley (offences)	North East (offences)	England (offences)
2002/03	7.5	16.7	18.8
2003/04	6.3	15.0	17.0
2004/05	7.2	12.5	14.0
2005/06	6.4	12.0	13.5

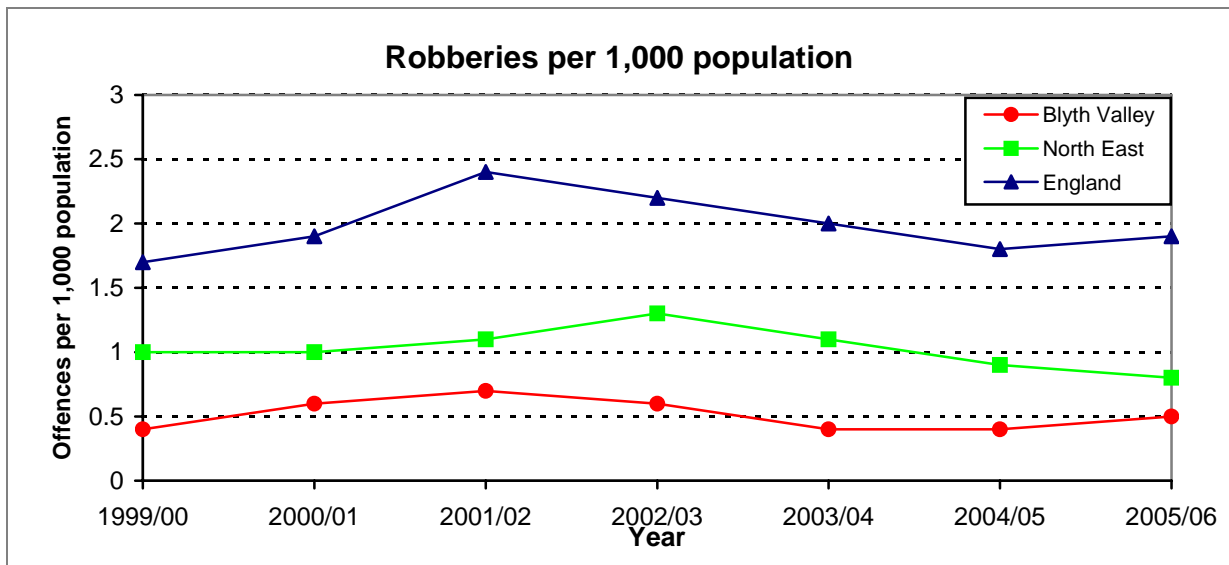
Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, Neighbourhood Renewal Unit, updated December 2006



Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, Neighbourhood Renewal Unit, updated December 2006

Robberies per 1,000 population	Blyth Valley (offences)	North East (offences)	England (offences)
2002/03	0.6	1.3	2.2
2003/04	0.4	1.1	2.0
2004/05	0.4	0.9	1.8
2005/06	0.5	0.8	1.9

Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, Neighbourhood Renewal Unit, updated December 2006



Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, Neighbourhood Renewal Unit, updated December 2006

Drug Prevention

The Action Against Illegal Drugs PSA incorporating SR2004 PSA (HO 4) is to:

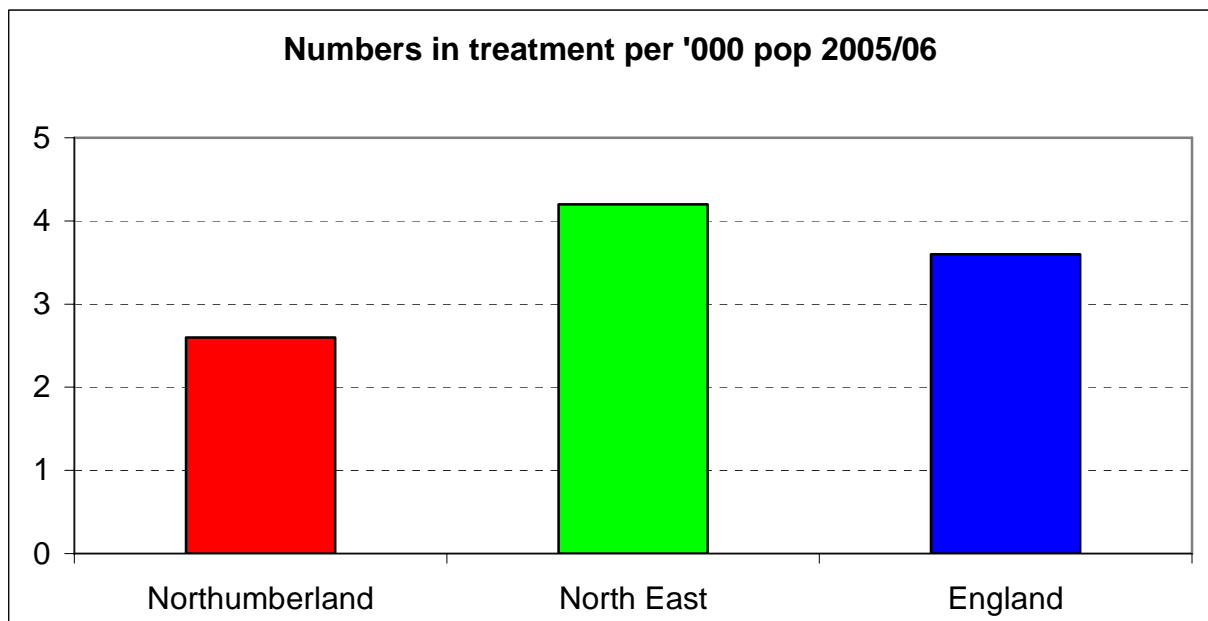
- reduce the harm caused by drugs by illegal drugs including substantially increasing the number of drug misusing offenders entering treatment through the criminal justice system
- increase the number of problem drug users in treatment by 100% by 2008 (from 100,000 in 1988)
- reduce drug use among young people under the age of 25, particularly vulnerable young people.

Progress is measured by a range of targets and indicators set out in the National Drug Strategy and Young Peoples PSA Delivery Plan. These include:

- increasing the numbers of people in treatment to 200,000 by 2008

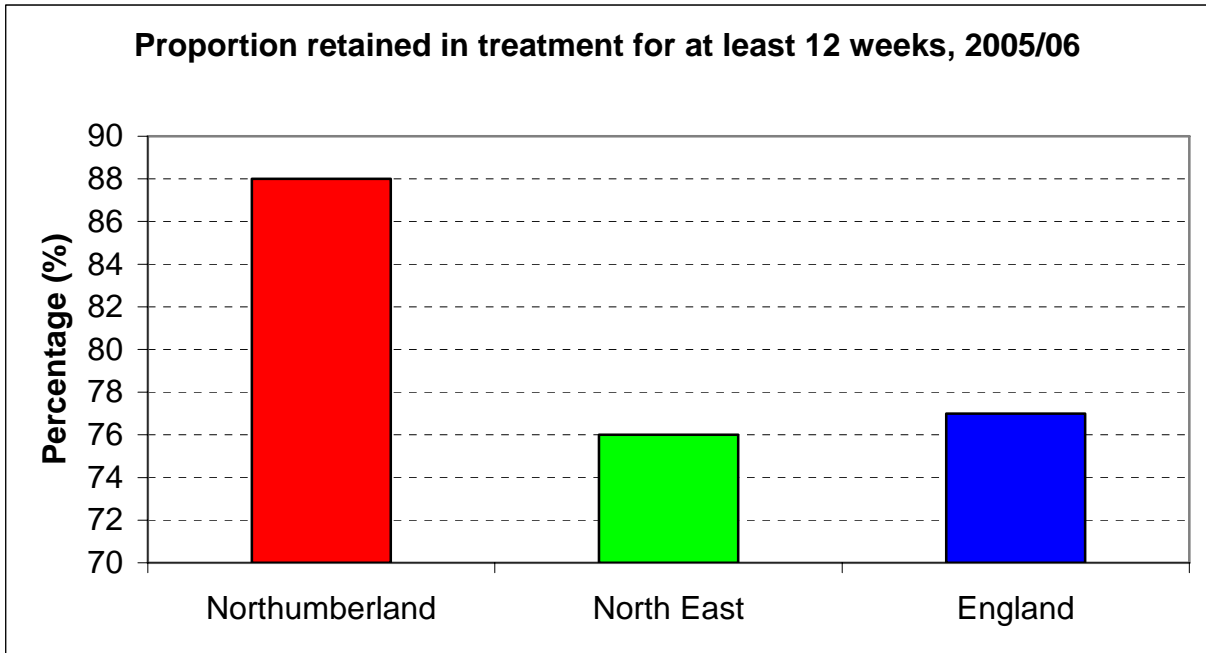
Between 2004/5 and 2005/6 the number of people in treatment in England rose by 13% to just over 180,000.

In the North East, the number increased by 14% to over 10,000 and in Northumberland it increased by 16% to 800.



Source: NTA/ NTDMs Statistical Releases, updated January 2007

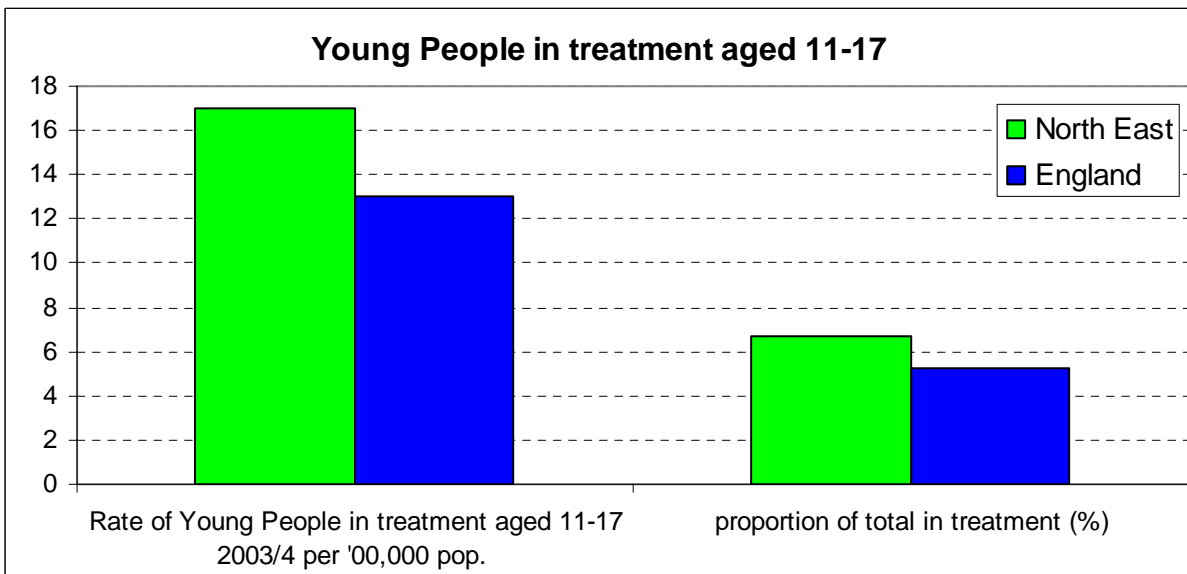
- increasing the proportion who remain in treatment for more than 12 weeks



Source: NTA/NTDMS Statistical Releases, updated January 2007

- Increasing the number of young people in drug treatment.

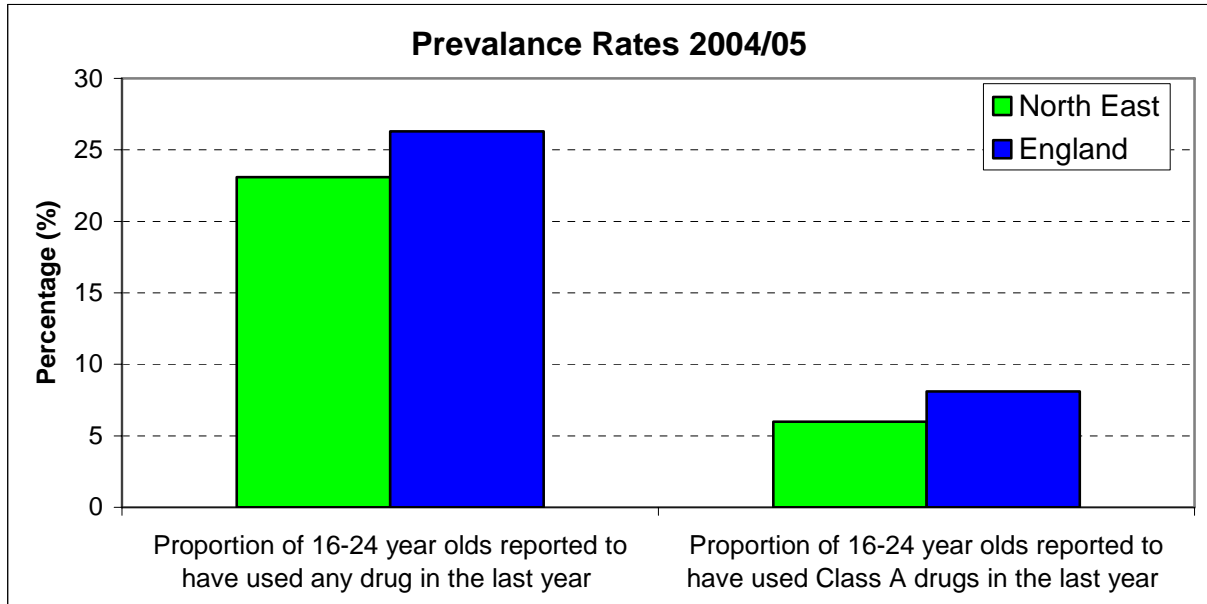
In 2003-4, young people aged 11-17 in treatment in the North East represented 436. This represented 6.7% of all people in treatment in the region. Numbers are not currently available for Northumberland.



Source: NTA/NTDMS Statistical Releases

- Reducing prevalence of drug use among young people.

In 2004/5 23.1% of young people in the North East aged 16 – 24 reported having taken any drug during the previous year and 6% reported having taken Class A drugs. This compares with the National averages of 26.3% and 8.1% respectively.



Source: Drug Misuse declared, findings from the 2004/05 British Crime Survey, Home Office

For further information on the government’s National Drug Strategy visit the following websites:

<http://www.drugs.gov.uk> and <http://www.nta.nhs.uk/>

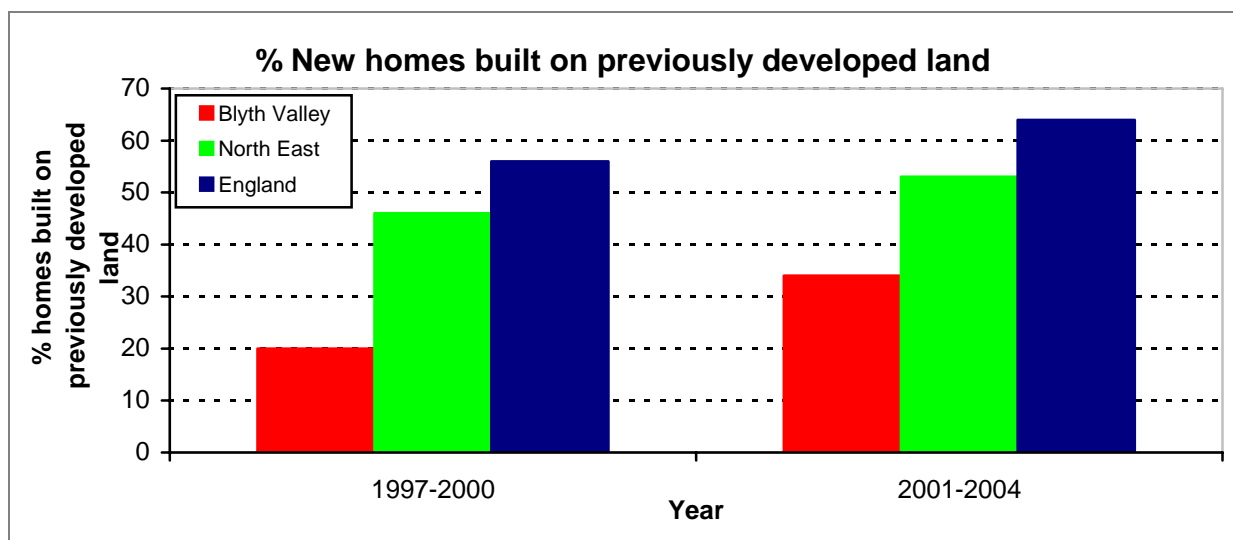
Housing

Physical Environment

ODPM has a national target in PPG3 of 60% of new dwellings provided on previously developed land. RPG1 sets a target of 65% for the North East.

	Blyth Valley (%)	North East (%)	England (%)
New homes built on previously developed land (1997-2000)	20	46	56
New homes built on previously developed land (2001-2004)	34	53	64

Source: ODPM, revised March 2006



Source: ODPM, revised March 2006

Living Environment

ODPM (SR2004 [7]) have a target to: By 2010, bring all social housing into a decent condition with most of this improvement taking place in deprived areas, and for vulnerable households in the private sector, including families with children, increase the proportion who live in homes that are in decent condition.

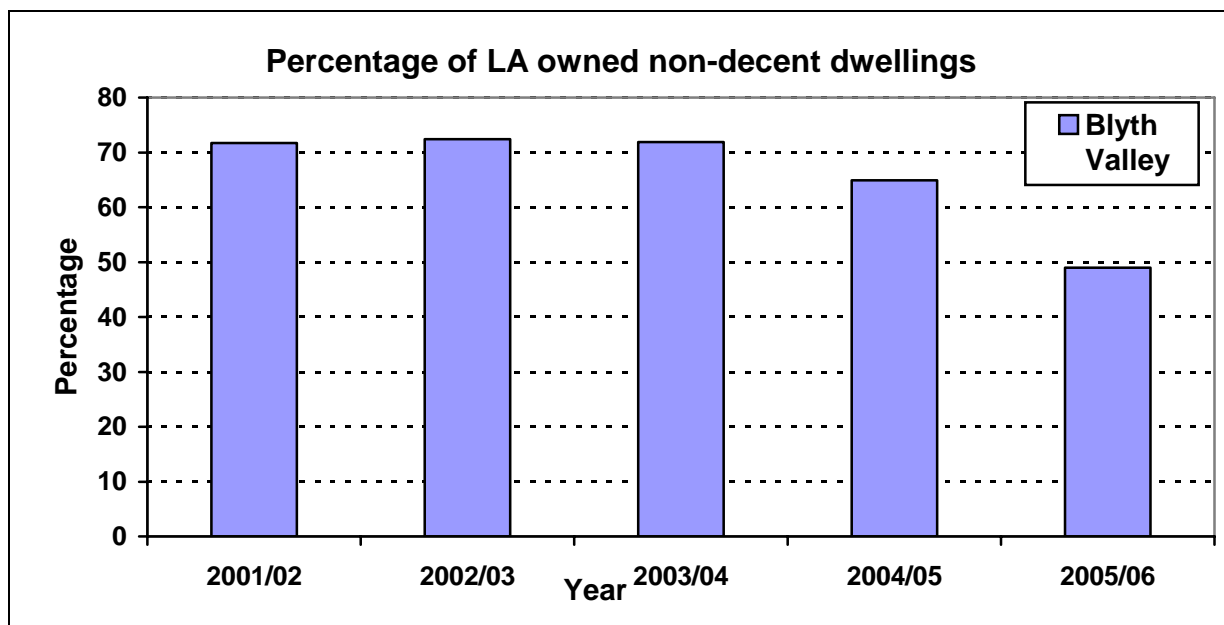
Blyth Valley	2003/04 (%)	2004/05 (%)	2005/06 (%)
% of Local Authority owned non-decent dwellings	71.9	64.9	49.0

Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, updated July 2006

Data on local authority-owned housing at district level does not include those authorities that have transferred housing stock (Large Scale Voluntary Transfer). Therefore it is not possible to produce aggregate data for areas larger than local authority districts.

All counts are rounded to the nearest 1,000 dwellings.

Non decent homes are those that fail to meet any of the following criteria: the current minimum standard for housing (the fitness standard), a reasonable state of repair, reasonably modern facilities and services, and a reasonable degree of thermal comfort.



Source: Floor Targets Interactive website, updated July 2006

Stock Options and Social Sector Decent Homes

Blyth Valley Borough Council was accepted onto Round 2 of the Arms Length Management Organisation programme in May 2002. The ALMO, Blyth Valley Housing Ltd, was awarded a '2 star' rating by the Audit Commission, enabling access to additional Government investment in the housing stock of around £49m.

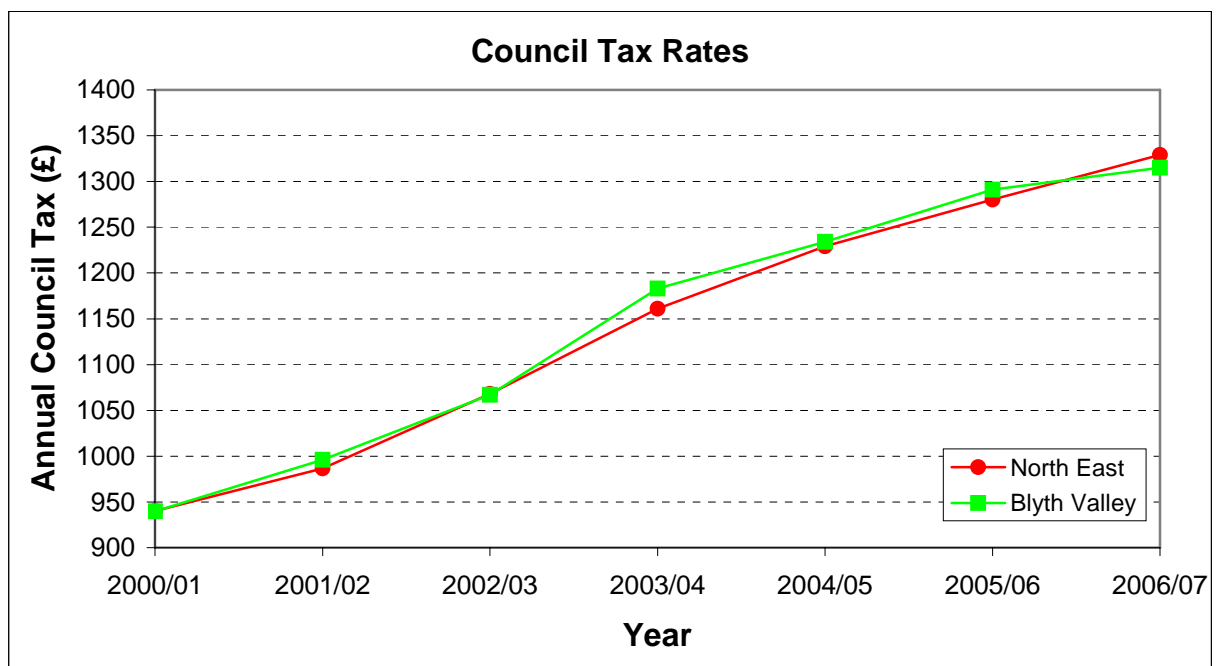
An ALMO is a not-for-profit organisation run by an unpaid board of directors that includes councillors and tenant representatives. It takes over the day to day running of the housing service: things like ordering repairs and collecting rent. And it can access additional Government funding to bring properties up to the Decent Homes standard and maintain them at that level if it performs well. The council continues to own the homes; tenants stay as council tenants and keep all their legal rights.

Source: GO Housing Team, January 2007

Council Tax

Band D Rates	Blyth Valley (£)	Annual Increase (%)	North East average (£)	Annual Increase (%)
2000/01	940.00	6.4	940.02	5.1
2001/02	996.00	6.0	986.63	5.0
2002/03	1067.00	7.1	1068.00	8.3
2003/04	1183.00	10.9	1161.00	8.7
2004/05	1234.00	4.3	1229.00	5.9
2005/06	1291.00	4.6	1280.00	4.1
2006/07	1315.00	1.8	1329.00	3.8

Source: ODPM Local Government Finance – Council Tax, June 2006



Source: ODPM Local Government Finance – Council Tax, June 2006

Planning

Development Plan – the Blyth Valley District Local Plan was adopted in May 1999, and runs until 2006. The authority has adopted its Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) for the Local Development Framework (LDF). The authority is conducting a review of the local development plan for its area under the new arrangements. The LDS Database on the Planning Portal at <http://ldsdatabase.planningportal.gov.uk/ldfsearch.aspx> gives further information.

Planning Delivery Grant (PDG)

Blyth Valley	2004/05 (£)	2005/06 (£)	2006/07 (£)
Planning Delivery Grant allocation	318,515	92,208	78,544

Source: ODPM PLUS, updated June 2006

E-Planning – the Planning Delivery Grant includes a small amount for e-planning delivery. In December 2005 a survey on behalf of ODPM scored Blyth Valley Borough Council 10/21 for availability and accessibility of online planning information and services. Further details and copies of the tables can be found at:

<http://www.pendleton-assoc.com/websitesurveys.html>

The e-planning allocation for 2007/08 will be based on achieving national criteria set out on the Communities and Local Government website at

http://www.communities.gov.uk/pub/920/PlanningDeliveryGrantAllocationCriteria200708ePlanningGuidanceNote_id1504920.doc

Planning performance – the development control element of Planning Delivery Grant is largely based on the authority's performance on planning decisions against national targets.

Speed of Decision

	Major Applications (% in 13 weeks)		Minor applications (% in 8 weeks)		Other applications (% in 8 weeks)	
	Target*	Achieved	Target*	Achieved	Target*	Achieved
Year ending 31 March 2004	50	57	55	57	70	61
Year ending 31 March 2005	52	47	58	40	73	66
Year ending 31 March 2006	60	26.3	65	10	80	18.3

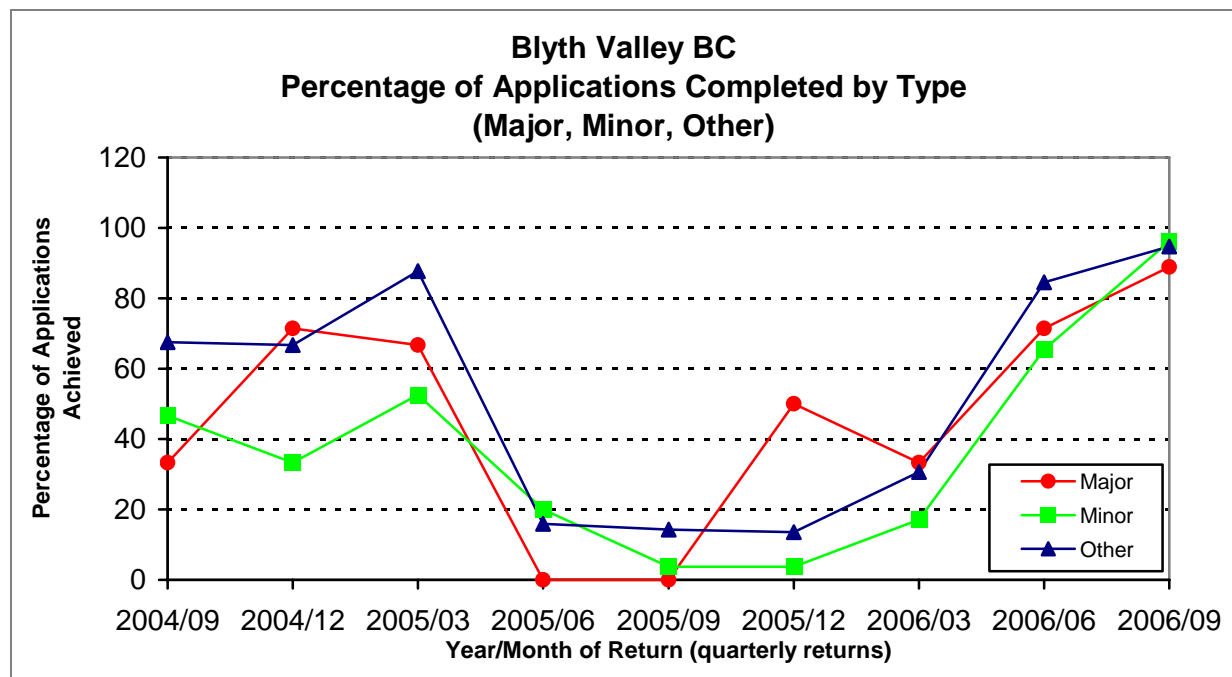
Source: ODPM, planning decisions by district planning authorities by speed of decision, updated July 2006

* Targets in ODPM Service Delivery Agreement to be reached by 31 March 2007 are:
 60% of major applications to be decided in 13 weeks
 65% of minor applications to be decided in 8 weeks
 80% of other applications to be decided in 8 weeks

Planning decisions – because of seasonal variation quarterly figures should be compared with the corresponding quarter in the previous year.

Blyth Valley DC							
Year	Quarter Ending	Major Apps	Major <13 wks (%)	Minor Apps	Minor < 8 wks (%)	Other Apps	Other < 8 wks (%)
2006	09	9	88.9	26	96.2	95	94.7
2006	06	7	71.4	26	65.4	161	84.5
2006	03	6	33.3	35	17.1	124	30.7
2005	12	8	50.0	27	3.7	118	13.6
2005	09	5	0.0	27	3.7	119	14.3
2005	06	3	0.0	20	20.0	107	15.9
2005	03	3	66.7	19	52.6	106	87.7
2004	12	7	71.4	15	33.3	111	66.7
2004	09	3	33.3	15	46.7	163	67.5

Source: Local Planning Authority Risk Register, ODPM, updated January 2007



Source: Local Planning Authority Risk Register, ODPM, updated January 2007

Greenbelt Land

	Blyth Valley (hectares)	North East (hectares)	England (hectares)
Designated Greenbelt land 2003	2,890	66,200	1,671,400
Designated Greenbelt land 2004	2,890	71,910	1,678,200

Source: ODPM PLUS, updated January 2006

Members of Parliament

Blyth Valley District holds the same boundary as the Blyth Valley parliamentary constituency. Labour MP Ronnie Campbell represents the constituency.



Source: NOMIS, Office for National Statistics

Local Area Agreements

A key part of the developing strategy for enabling better public services to be delivered more effectively locally is to provide a new framework for the relationship between central and local government.

Local Area Agreements are a new way of working to build a more flexible and responsive relationship between central government and a locality on the priority outcomes that need to be achieved at local level. Achieving this new relationship will require a significant shift in the way central and local government relate to each other and to other local partners.

The aim is to improve both the effectiveness and the efficiency of the way in which Government works with local authorities, and their delivery partners, to improve public services and in particular to:

- provide an intelligent and mature conversation between central and local government based on a clear framework and a shared understanding of national and local priorities. This process should provide a discipline for both Departments and local partners to be clear about the outcomes being sought, leaving the means to achieve them in the hands of local delivery partners;
- improve local performance by allowing more flexible use of resources between partners in order to achieve shared outcomes and a genuine further devolution of responsibility. By bringing together a wide range of separate programmes that have a lot of common ground in the outcomes they seek, areas will benefit from greater flexibility about the means of achieving those outcomes, and achieve more for any given funding;
- enhance efficiency by rationalising non-mainstream funding programmes reducing bureaucracy associated with the numerous small funding schemes and area-based initiatives which are available to councils and their partners. There should be efficiency gains for Departments in the administrative costs of running programmes, and for councils and partners from fewer funding streams and simplified monitoring and auditing requirements;
- help partners to join up at a local level and enhance the community leadership role of local authorities.
- the five key elements that form the package are:
 - simplified funding for Safer and Stronger Communities;
 - strengthened Local Public Service Agreements;
 - strengthened National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal;
 - a stronger role for Government Offices; and
 - pilot Local Area Agreements.

Northumberland, working with the 6 District Councils, from the second phase of LAAs, has agreements that became effective in April 2006.

Further information regarding LAAs can be viewed by following the link below.
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1137779>

Comprehensive Performance Assessment

CPA is about helping local councils improve services for their communities. The Commission assesses the performance of councils and the services that they provide for local people. Our assessment helps councils to focus on improvement. The assessment comprises evidence from other external review bodies plus the Commission's judgements.

The way that Blyth Valley District Council is run and the delivery of services has been assessed as **excellent** (on the scale excellent/good/fair/weak/poor).

Northumberland County Council - This is a council for which the direction of travel assessment is **improving well** and which is demonstrating a **3 star** overall performance.

More information on the CPA is available from the following link.

<http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/cpa/>

Updated January 2006

Best Value Indicators

Best Value Indicators are measures of performance set by the departments in central government. They are called Best Value Performance Indicators or BVPI's, as they have only been set since the duty of best value on local authorities came into effect under the Local Government Act 1999.

A full range of the Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPI) can be found by entering the name of the Local Authority in the box on the page from the web link below.

http://www.bvpi.gov.uk/pages/KeyFacts_Step1.asp

Local Public Service Agreements

Northumberland County Council signed up in the first round of Local PSAs in 2001. The rollout scheme comprised agreements from November 2001 onwards. The following is an extract from their summary agreement.

VISION:

“The County Council will strive to ensure that by 2010 Northumberland will enjoy a prosperous economy supported by high quality services tailored to meet the particular needs of all the diverse communities of Northumberland. Our communities will be vibrant and sustainable and everyone living here will have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.”

Northumberland's Local PSA reflects the breadth of services provided by the County and District Councils and their partner agencies. It has been framed around the five Strategic Priorities outlined in the County Council's Strategic Statement 2001/05 and the Annual Executive Statement 2002/03.

HEADLINE OUTCOMES:

1. Reducing the rate of re-offending of young offenders
2. Improving Cost Effectiveness
3. Delivering priority services electronically and in a way that customers will use
4. Raising Education Standards at Key Stage 3
5. Increasing bus passenger journeys in Northumberland
6. Reducing the growth in the amount of household waste generated
7. Providing children with disabilities with increased choice and access to short break overnight care
8. Improving education, training and employment outcomes for care leavers
9. Improving fire safety
10. Increasing the participation of problem drug users in drug treatment, and increasing year on year the proportion of users successfully sustaining or completing treatment programmes
11. Enhancing public satisfaction with highway maintenance and street lighting services
12. Increasing the employment rate of people with disabilities

Further information on the Local Public Service Agreements can be viewed at:-

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1134088>

Beacon Councils

Blyth Valley was awarded Beacon Status in Round 3 for Tackling Fuel Poverty and in Round 6 for Getting Closer to Communities.

More information on Beacon Councils can be viewed at:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1135596>

Neighbourhood Renewal

Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) are the key vehicles for taking forward the neighbourhood renewal agenda in the most disadvantaged districts of the region. An LSP is a single body that brings together the key representatives of the public, private, voluntary and community sectors in the local authority area. The LSP's objective is to ensure that the service providers and various initiatives working in the area support each other and work together for the good of the community at large.

The LSP is not in receipt of Neighbourhood Renewal Funding. However, together with other LSPs in Northumberland a programme is being developed to use a Neighbourhood Renewal Advisor to carry out a scoping exercise to build partnership capacity. The LSP is part of a countywide network of LSP managers that now meet regularly to provide support and exchange of ideas as well as accessing funding from the Northumberland Strategic Partnership.

LSPs in receipt of Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) resources have already made the shift from focusing on process to the delivery of outcomes through the introduction of performance management. Local Area Agreements (LAAs) are also clearly focused on outcomes and it is crucial all LSPs now develop this delivery focus in order to achieve the vision set out in their Sustainable Community Strategies.

However, whilst Blyth Valley is not eligible for Neighbourhood Renewal funding it has fed into the Northumberland LAA.

The LSP's Coordinator is Brian Downs. The LSP is chaired by Councillor Dave Stephens, the leader of Blyth Valley District Council.

Neighbourhood Management

Neighbourhood Management is about change management – change in the culture and organisation of service delivery agencies and other bodies, and in the way they relate to one another and the communities they serve. Its focus is on changing the way mainstream services are delivered, tailoring them to the needs and priorities of neighbourhoods, and making one person (or team) responsible for making sure that those services are delivered. It requires effective participation by local people and organisations, and commitment from service agencies to work in partnership at a neighbourhood level. Priority areas for the pathfinder are: crime and community safety; environment and housing; education; children and young people; health; jobs and training; cross cutting issues such as community cohesion.

One of the four Neighbourhood Management Pathfinders is based in Blyth – Improving Croft and Cowpen Quay (ICCQ) Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder.

Neighbourhood Management Pathfinders had to complete a Performance Management Framework during 2004/05. ICCQ, despite only being in operation for 1 year were successful in receiving a commendation award for their Be Active health project at 2005 annual NM/NDC awards.

Neighbourhood Management Pathfinders receive funding over 7 years – totalling £2.45million. From April 2006 Neighbourhood Management funding is no longer ring fenced and will be pooled within the Northumberland LAA.

The Pathfinder works with local funders to ensure that there is an emphasis on mainstream providers to continue successful interventions in future years.

Source: GONE Neighbourhood Renewal team, updated December 2006

Area Based Initiatives

ABIs are publicly funded initiatives targeted on areas of social or economic disadvantage, which aim to improve the quality of life of residents and/or their future life chances and those of their children. They have one or more of the following features:

- Aimed at particular geographical areas, or intended to have a greater impact in some areas or regions than others;
- Managed through regional, sub-regional or local partnerships;
- Intended to support a number of objectives locally which are the responsibility of more than one Department;
- Put forward as pilots or pathfinders for programmes that will ultimately be rolled out nationally.

A full list of ABIs occurring in Blyth Valley can be found by entering the Local Authority name in the search box on the website below:-

<http://213.121.210.181/abi/>