

# Cheshire Community Report 2005

## Executive Summary

A new framework was introduced for the Cheshire Partnership in 2005 to facilitate more effective local area working. Building on the Local Government Act 2000 and the formation of local public service agreements, the Government has set fresh challenges to local strategic partnerships with the introduction of Local Area Agreements. These provide new opportunities for Partnerships to demonstrate the means by which they are working effectively together to identify, tackle, and deliver local priorities.

The new Local Area Agreement framework places even greater emphasis on the need for effective structures to underpin service delivery, commissioning, consultation, leadership, and community empowerment. Evidence that local communities are benefiting from Partnership working is measured in terms of quality of life for local residents. The Community Report supports the information needs of the Cheshire Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) as well as the 6 district LSPs by monitoring the key social, economic, and environmental trends in local areas that improve quality of life. This third edition of the Cheshire Community Report continues to monitor these trends amongst our diverse communities within the new themes of the Local Area Agreement framework.

The report was prepared by the County Council's Research and Intelligence Unit and is available for download from:

[www.cheshire.gov.uk/randi/communityreport](http://www.cheshire.gov.uk/randi/communityreport)

The following provides an overview of the key messages that can be found within the report.

## Key Messages

### Safer & Stronger Communities

#### Cheshire's People

Cheshire has a population of approximately 680,000, which accounts for 10% of the North West population and approximately 1.3% of the population of England & Wales. This makes Cheshire the 16th largest local authority out of 410 in England & Wales. Recent forecasts indicate a population decline over the next two decades but with the proportion of older residents continuing to rise. Key demographic trends include:

- Cheshire's population is forecast to decline by 1% between 2001-2021
- All district populations are forecast to decrease except Vale Royal (growth of 4%) and Crewe & Nantwich (growth of 1%) in this period
- Cheshire's population will peak at approximately 681,000 in 2007 and fall to approximately 664,300 in 2021 according to the 2004 Population Report
- Crude birth rates in Cheshire since 1994 have remained consistently lower than national rates. Cheshire birth rates in 2004 were 10.8 per 1,000 population
- Crude death rates for 2004 in Cheshire at 10.1 per 1,000 population were slightly above the national rate of 9.7 per 1,000 population
- Migration of people into Cheshire between 1997 and 2004 resulted in a net gain averaging 2,300 people per annum

Cheshire's population is forecast to decline from 2007 onwards

By 2011, Cheshire will have more older residents (aged 65+) than younger residents (aged 0-15)

## Community Safety

Safer communities are a key contributor to the welfare and well-being of Cheshire residents. The reduction of crime and disorder was ranked as the highest priority by Cheshire residents in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey. Over two-fifths of respondents considered it to be the foremost priority for improving the quality of life in Cheshire's communities.

Key findings on crime rates within Cheshire include:

- Over 40% of respondents in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey ranked reducing crime and disorder in their top 3 priorities; lower than in the previous 2 Quality of Life Surveys (2000, 1995)
- Cheshire continues to have one of the lowest crime rates in England with 83 recorded crimes per 1,000 population (56,457) in 2004/05. This is a decrease of approximately 8% from the 2003/04 rate of 90 incidences per 1,000 population (61,135)
- Property crime decreased when we compare the figures in 2003/04 and 2004/05. This included burglary (-21%) and theft & handling (-12%). However violent offences (including violence against the person, sexual crimes & robbery) increased by 4% when we compare these periods
- Property crime across Cheshire accounted for approximately three out of every four (73%) recorded offences during 2004/05
- Fear of crime was strongest for burglary from home (54%) according to the 2004 Community Survey. Overall fear of crime has declined since the first Quality of Life Survey was conducted in 1995
- There were approximately 15 recorded incidences of violent crime per 1,000 population in Cheshire during 2004/05, compared with a rate of over 22 per 1,000 for England & Wales
- Overall reporting rates for domestic violence have risen with the largest rise in Congleton and Vale Royal, both with an increase of 24% from 2002 to 2004

Cheshire has one of the lowest crime rates in England at 83 recorded offences per 1,000 population

Property crime accounts for 3 out of every 4 recorded offences in Cheshire

## Cheshire Communities & Social Cohesion

Social changes in Cheshire's communities have a wide and lasting impact on the perception and character of social cohesion within neighbourhoods. Towns, cities, villages and communities in Cheshire all depend on growth and stability in population, housing, employment, leisure etc, to succeed as safer and stronger communities. Partnerships can work together to improve social conditions and regenerate communities with better access to jobs, housing, education, and services. Sustained growth will promote positive community outcomes such as improved health, lower crime rates and community participation.

The character of Cheshire communities and levels of cohesion are reflected in social composition data as well as some key survey findings on community perceptions including:

- The 2005 Quality of Life Survey found that the majority of Cheshire residents (92%) liked living in their home area, including 60% who 'liked very much' living there
- Over a third of respondents in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey ranked 'involving local people in decision making' in their top three priorities, higher than its ranking in the 2000 Quality of Life Survey
- Over three-quarters (77%) of respondents to the 2004 Cheshire Community Survey agreed that 'by working together, people can influence decisions that affect their local area'

92% of Cheshire residents like living in their home area

One Fifth of Cheshire residents were involved in a voluntary or community group in the last 2 weeks

- Community participation rates are highest among the 65-74 age group with 34% involved in a local voluntary or community group in the last 2 weeks. Among all adults surveyed this rate was 19% citing involvement in the last 2 weeks
- The Cheshire Community Survey 2004 found that 47% of respondents were involved with a voluntary or community group during the previous 12 months
- Four out of five respondents (84%) in the 2004 Cheshire Community Survey answered 'yes' when asked if their neighbourhood was a place where neighbours looked out for each other
- Non-white ethnic backgrounds currently account for 1.7% of Cheshire's population compared with 9.1% for England
- Members of the Christian faith account for over 80% of Cheshire residents compared with 71% for England
- Over 80% of households have access to one or more cars compared with a rate of 73% for England
- The owner occupation rate for Cheshire is approximately 80% compared with 71% for England
- Eleven Cheshire wards have lower level Super Output Areas (SOAs) which fall into the top 10% most multiply deprived SOAs in England. (N.B: SOAs are sub-ward neighbourhoods of approximately 1,500 residents. Cheshire has 442 lower level SOAs with between 1 and 5 falling in each ward)

8 in 10 households have access to one or more cars compared 7 in 10 for England

## Children & Young People

### Overall Trends

The Communities of Cheshire Partnership needs to ensure that all relevant local agencies working with children and young people across the county can support them to make the most of their lives. These can range from direct service delivery (e.g. schools, care services) to the provision of advice, training, and employment across different sectors to enhance life chances at important junctions in young adults' lives. The welfare of children & young people depends on them staying healthy and safe, as well as obtaining qualifications and skills to achieve economic well-being so that individuals can make positive contributions to their communities. Relevant data on children and young people includes:

- The 2004 Population Report forecasts a 25% decrease in the number 0-15 year olds between 2001 and 2021
- 'Providing activities for young people' was cited by 37% of all respondents in their top three priorities in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey. Amongst young respondents 48% cited this in their top three priorities
- Youth unemployment in Cheshire increased from 29% in 2004 to 30% in 2005. This is the number of claimants aged under 25 years as a proportion of total claimants

Youth unemployment in Cheshire has increased from 29% in 2004 to 30% in 2005

Findings from younger respondents in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey included:

- Over 60% of younger respondents in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey perceived their image among adults as "bad/quite bad", compared with only 35% of adults actually stating that response
- Six out of ten of the young respondents to the 2005 Quality of Life Survey had no problems caused by alcohol during the past year
- Over two-fifths of younger respondents ranked 'More affordable leisure facilities' and 'Listening to young people' in their top three priorities in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey

85% of young people stated that their health is good or very good for their age

- 85% of young people stated that their health is good or very good for their age
- 10% of young people had a long term illness, health problem or disability

## Educational Attainment

Access to good quality educational opportunities is a fundamental building block of successful communities. Educational attainment improves self-esteem among children and job market prospects among young adults, providing beneficial outcomes for communities and neighbourhoods as a whole. Recent data on educational attainment includes:

- Eight out of ten (81%) eleven year olds achieved Level 4 (KS2) or above in English in 2004 compared with an England rate of 78%. Equivalent rates for Maths were 78% (Cheshire) and 74% (England)
- Three-quarters (76%) of fourteen year olds achieved Level 5 (KS3) or above in English in 2003 compared with an England rate of 71%. Equivalent rates for Maths were 76% (Cheshire) and 73% (England)
- The proportion of pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A to C in 2004 was 60% in Cheshire compared with an England rate of approximately 54%
- Over half of adult respondents with children in their households (53%) in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey were very satisfied, (and a further 36% quite satisfied) with primary education
- Satisfaction with secondary education in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey was slightly lower; 35% were very satisfied and a further 44% quite satisfied
- In the 2004 Anti-Bullying Survey 44% of pupils in years 5, 6 and 7 stated that they had been bullied in the past 12 months

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## Social Inclusion & Children

Children are particularly vulnerable members of society and the rate of children being looked after can be much higher in areas of family stress. Children can be relatively more disadvantaged than adults by multiple deprivation, household unemployment or poor parental control, which can lead to low educational attainment, higher rates of school absences and anti-social behaviour in some neighbourhoods. Recent findings on deprivation relating to children include:

- The 2004 Index of Multiple Deprivation indicated that 15 Cheshire super output areas fall within the top 10% most deprived neighbourhoods in England for deprivation affecting children
- The 2004 Index of Multiple Deprivation indicated that 7 Cheshire super output areas fall in the top 10% of North West rankings for deprivation affecting children
- The severest pockets of deprivation affecting children in Cheshire are in urban areas. All of Cheshire's 171 rural SOAs fall outside the top 20% most deprived super output areas in England for child poverty
- The Income Support claimant rate among Lone Parents is 8.6 per 1,000 compared with 14.6 per 1,000 for England & Wales
- The rate of referrals to Cheshire's Children's Services in 2004 was 50 per 1,000 population aged 18 or under
- The rate of children looked after during 2004 was 3.36 per 1,000 population aged 18 or under

The severest pockets of deprivation affecting children in Cheshire are in urban areas

## Healthier Communities & Older People

### Healthy Communities

The Cheshire Local Strategic Partnership aims to reduce health inequalities and promote healthier communities and lifestyles in order to deliver a key plank of its Local Area Agreement. Many health issues may be tackled through improved health education and access to information, advice and support for all age groups. Improved access to recreation, sport and leisure will have longer term benefits for Cheshire communities in terms of reduced levels of heart disease, obesity, stroke and mental health problems.

Indicators of general health include:

- Four out of five respondents (80%) in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey felt that, for their age, their health was 'good' or 'very good'. Five per cent of respondents felt that their health was either 'bad' or 'very bad'
- The crude death rate in Cheshire for 2004 was 10.1 per 1,000 population compared with a national rate of 9.7 per 1,000 population. Crude death rates in Cheshire between 2001 and 2004 have been higher than the national rate for all causes and ages
- The priority 'Helping people to live healthier lives' was ranked 7<sup>th</sup> out of 12 overall priorities in the 2005 Quality of Life survey. The main issues perceived as having a bad effect on health were lack of exercise (37%), weight problems (28%), tobacco smoke in public places (28%) and stress at work (27%)
- The rate of Disability Living Allowance claimants in Cheshire in 2004 was 39.9 per 1,000 population compared with a North West rate of 60.2 per 1,000 and an England & Wales rate of 46.7 per 1,000 population
- Half of all Cheshire residents take part in some form of sport or exercise at least once a week according to respondents in the 2004 Community Survey
- Approximately 80% of respondents in the 2004 Community Survey said that they did not smoke. The highest proportion of smokers was in Ellesmere Port & Neston (24%) compared with a rate of 17% in Chester, Congleton and Vale Royal districts
- Conception rates to mothers under 18 years in Cheshire per 1,000 females aged 15-17, has decreased from 36.2 in 1998-00 to 31.7 in 2001-03. The Cheshire rate has remained consistently lower than rates for both the North West and England & Wales since 1998

80% of Cheshire residents feel that their health is good or very good

Half of all Cheshire residents take part in some form of sport or exercise at least once a week

### Older People

An increasingly ageing population will place additional demands on Cheshire's health services and therefore the partnership needs to ensure that agencies can work together to enable older people to live as independently as possible. As more of Cheshire's residents will live longer, services for older people will need to provide more choice as well as become more responsive. This will include improved access to lifelong learning opportunities and earlier identification of risks to older people. Indicators on Cheshire's older population include:

- The number of older people aged 65 and over will increase by 34% between 2001 and 2021
- One in five (20%) of all respondents in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey had a long-term illness, health problem, or disability which limited their daily activities or work. This rose to half of the 75+ age group and over a third (36%) of the 65-74 age group

The number of older people aged 65 and over will increase by 34% between 2001 and 2021

- Over half (53%) of the respondents aged 65+ in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey complained of at least one specific health problem. For the 75+ age group this rose to 59%
- The 2004 State Pension claimant rate in Cheshire at 197 per 1,000 population is higher than both the North West (182 per 1,000) and England & Wales (180 per 1,000)
- The 2004 Index of Multiple Deprivation indicates that 9 Cheshire super output areas fall within the top 10% most deprived areas in England in terms of deprivation affecting older people

## Economic Development & Enterprise

### Economic Trends

Economic forecasts for Cheshire indicate relatively strong output and investment growth to 2015

Cheshire occupies a strategic location within the North West region accounting for 10% of the regional population and 13% of the regional output. Cheshire's Gross Value Added (GVA) at £17,212 per head of population is substantially more than regional and UK rates.

Economic forecasts for Cheshire indicate relatively strong output and investment growth to 2015. Only slow growth in the labour supply is forecast. Chemical, automotive, pharmaceuticals, food and drink, and tourism continue to make up a substantial part of employment sectors across the county, and unemployment levels are low compared with the North West. Other key indicators of Cheshire's economic health include:

- Output (GVA) growth between 2000 and 2015 is forecast at 2.8% per annum for Cheshire compared with an annual growth rate of 2.2% for the North West. Macclesfield district is forecast to have a higher growth rate of 3.9% p.a. during this period
- Investment growth between 2000 and 2015 is forecast at 3.3% per annum for Cheshire compared with a North West rate of 3.2%
- Labour supply of working age people will remain stable in the medium term and decrease by 4% in the long term (2021). There will be an increase in the proportion of older workers in this period reflecting both demographic changes and the change in retirement age for females from age 60 to 65 to be phased in by 2010

### Employment

The unemployment rate in Cheshire in April 2006 was 1.8%

- Unemployment rates are rising after more than a decade of falling rates. The unemployment rate in Cheshire (resident based claimant counts) was 1.8% at April 2006 compared with a rate of 2.6% for Great Britain. Ellesmere Port & Neston had the highest rate of unemployment (2.4%) and Macclesfield the lowest (1.0%)
- The proportion of unemployed aged over 50 years accounted for 18% of all claimants, similar to 2005. Youth unemployment in Cheshire increased from 30% in 2005 to 31% in 2006 (i.e. the number of claimants aged under 25 years as a proportion of total claimants)
- Long-term (over 1 year) unemployed in Cheshire increased to 10% of all claimants in 2006 from 7% in 2005
- Total employment growth between 1997 and 2004 was 9% for Cheshire compared with 10% for Great Britain
- Employment growth between 2000 and 2015 is forecast at 0.7% per annum, similar to North West and UK rates. Employment growth in this period will be

Long-term unemployed in Cheshire decreased to 7% of all claimants in 2005 from 10% in 2004

highest for Ellesmere Port and Neston district (1.0% p.a.) and lowest for Congleton (0.1 % p.a.)

- Employment in the Service Sector increased in Cheshire between 1997 and 2004 by 22% compared to 18% in both the North West and Great Britain respectively

## Enterprise & Growth

- The three sectors of Public Administration, Education and Health have seen the most significant increase in numbers employed in Cheshire since 1997
- Employment in Agriculture, Fishing, Forestry and Energy & Water sectors experienced a significant decrease between 1996 and 2003
- Employment in the Manufacturing Sector between 1997 and 2004 experienced a fall of 17% compared with falls of 22% and 24% for the North West and Great Britain respectively
- Employment in the Construction Sector fell by 20% compared with rises in the North West (27%) and Great Britain (17%)
- Average gross weekly earnings for residents in Cheshire in 2004 was £558.60 compared with an average of £489.20 for Great Britain
- VAT Registered enterprises in Cheshire have increased by 6% since 2001 compared with an increase of 4% for the North West and Great Britain
- Within the Cheshire & Warrington sub-region, three-year survival rates have fallen slightly and are now similar to North West and the UK equivalents at approximately two-thirds of businesses

Average gross weekly earnings of residents in Cheshire is £559 compared with £489 for Great Britain

VAT registered enterprises in Cheshire have increased 6% since 2001 compared with a 4% increase for Great Britain

## Education & Skills

Successful local economies need an adequately skilled and educated workforce. Cheshire has a relatively high proportion of residents able to compete in labour markets and fewer residents without qualifications compared with the North West and England.

The county has maintained a pupil attainment rate consistently higher than national rates in key assessments with particular strength in Maths & Science. Nonetheless, low educational attainment persists in smaller pockets as the 2004 Indices of Deprivation highlight. Key evidence of the educational attainment, skills and training among Cheshire residents include:

- The proportion of pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs at Grades A to C in 2004 was 60% in Cheshire compared with an England rate of approximately 54%
- Twenty-one Cheshire super output areas (SOAs) fell within the top 10% most deprived areas in England in the Education, Skills & Training domain of the 2004 Indices of Deprivation. The highest ranked SOA fell within the Winsford Over ward in Vale Royal placing it in the top 1% nationally
- The 2004 Community Survey indicated that 62% of residents had taken part in some form of learning activity in the last 3 months with females (66%) more likely than males (58%) to take part. 'Lack of time' was the most commonly cited reason (41%) for not taking part in learning activities

60% of Cheshire pupils achieved 5+ GCSEs at Grades A to C in 2004

62% of residents had taken part in some form of learning activity in the last 2 months according to the 2004 Community Survey

## Sustainable Environments & Transport

### Sustainable Communities

The Communities of Cheshire Partnership works to achieve sustainable communities which are socially, economically, and environmentally viable for now and for future generations. A healthy and prosperous Cheshire needs to be accessible to residents, workers, and visitors. This means responsible development in all sectors which meets

the needs of present communities without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs.

Cheshire's Community Strategy is committed to ensuring that through policies and actions all partners ensure the correct use of Cheshire's natural resources and protect the environment.

The Strategy specifies targets for minimising both domestic and commercial waste and encouraging Cheshire organisations to be more environmentally responsible. It also includes targets for reversing the growth in road traffic accidents, restraining traffic growth and promoting public transport, cycling, walking, and public rights of way. Selected trends in these key areas of sustainability include:

13.4% of household waste in Cheshire is now composted

- Recycling of Cheshire's household waste increased in 2004/05 to 11.5% (including household waste collected via kerbside collections, kerbside recycling collections and household waste recycling centres). This was an increase since 2003/04 (9.6%). The amount of waste diverted from landfill to composting has also increased from previous years; 13.4% of household waste is now composted
- 448,739 tonnes of household waste were produced in 2004/05 (a figure that also includes some commercial waste), a slight increase from 2003/04 when 443,746 tonnes were produced
- 31% of Cheshire's working residents live over 10 miles away from their place of work, and 37% live 2 to 10 miles from work
- Generally, air quality across Cheshire is good, with very low levels of most common pollutants
- Almost three-quarters (72%) of all new house completions in 2003/04 were on previously developed or 'brownfield' land. Ellesmere Port & Neston district had the highest rate (97%) while Crewe & Nantwich had the lowest rate at just over a quarter (27%)

37% of Cheshire's working residents live 2 to 10 miles from their place of work

## Transport

Cheshire's Local Transport Plan is aimed at improving the quality of transport and network provision over the period 2006 to 2011. This includes improved road safety, accessibility and the integration of all forms of transport and land-use to achieve a more efficient and sustainable transport system. High car ownership and Cheshire's proximity to North Wales, Merseyside and Greater Manchester via the M56, M53 and M6 corridors accounts for the major traffic flows across the county in addition to urban areas.

- Fifteen out of twenty-three performance indicators are on target within the Local Transport Plan, including reductions of fatal road casualties, restraining traffic growth and crossings with facilities for the disabled
- The 2004 Community Survey indicated that 7% of journeys to work were by public transport. A target of 14% has been set for 2011 within Cheshire's Local Transport Plan

Findings on transport & traffic from respondents in the 2005 Quality of Life Survey included:

- 48% of respondents put 'Improving public transport' in their top 3 actions for reducing transport and traffic problems (similar to 2000, 50%)
- 89% of respondents had one or more cars available for their family to use, an increase from 84% in 2000
- 54% of respondents cited cheaper fares and more frequent services would make public transport more attractive to use
- Of those who travelled to work, 51% of respondents lived more than 5 miles from their place of work. One in ten said they worked from home

48% of respondents put 'Improving public transport' in their top 3 actions for reducing transport and traffic problems

- Just over 1 in 5 respondents (22%) said there would be nothing that would make them use their car less

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## Foreword

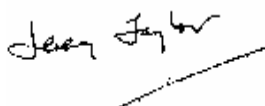
The 2005 Cheshire Community Report is the third in a series of statistical commentaries published on behalf of the Cheshire Partnership. The report aims to provide a comprehensive update and narrative of the key social, economic, and environmental trends which will have an impact on quality of life for all of Cheshire's residents. The report can also provide summary data and analysis for partner organisations as well as act as a document to monitor progress and outcomes from Cheshire's Community Strategy.

Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) provide the opportunity to address multi-faceted issues in communities that cannot be tackled effectively by any single agency working alone. However the communities which LSPs serve need to be assured that they are providing good value for money and effective working.

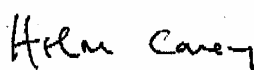
The original Cheshire Partnership is currently undergoing significant restructuring under Government guidelines. The introduction of Local Area Agreements and the need to build in improved governance, accountability, and capacity has presented all Partnerships in England with a challenging agenda. A new structure based around thematic partnerships including Children, Older People, Local Economy and Community Safety, is presenting partners with new opportunities to strengthen the links between service delivery on the ground, and the wider outcomes and targets of locally determined Community Strategies. Key to the success of this will be stronger leadership from Partnerships and clearer lines of accountability among partner organisations. Improved integration and joint working under Local Area Agreements will therefore help to clarify relationships and foster greater clarity of purpose for LSPs overall.

A greater emphasis on accountability among Partnership working implies improved targeting and performance measurement. The Cheshire Community Report will continue to act as a monitoring document for performance against the broad county wide outputs and outcomes, as well as report on future indicators that will evolve for each of the Local Area Agreement blocks. New indicators will therefore be generated for the 2006 Report to update the original 2002 baseline indicators. Key indicators, enhanced with contextual narrative for understanding local trends will form a key plank of the information needs of the Partnership to develop a shared understanding of existing and emerging issues facing Cheshire's communities.

A considerable array of data exists from which this report develops a picture of life across Cheshire. We therefore hope you will continue to find this document both interesting and informative and be able to draw on its contents in supporting the Community Strategy. As before we welcome any views you may have on the content and style of the report.



**Jeremy Taylor**  
**Chief Executive**  
**Cheshire County Council**



**Helen Carey**  
**Chair**  
**Cheshire Partnership**

# Community Strategy Monitoring

## Measuring performance on selected indicators

Indicator	Cheshire		Change (% or per 1,000)	See para- graph:
	2001	2005		
<b>Satisfaction with local area</b>				
% satisfied with their area as a place to live	87	92	+5	1.28
% saying their area has improved in the last 5 years	28	22	-6	N/A
<b>Economy &amp; Employment</b>				
Number of people claiming unemployment benefits as a % of economically active	1.9	1.3	-0.6	5.37
Percentage change in VAT registered businesses over last 5 years	3.8	6.0	+2.2	5.25
<b>Waste</b>				
Household waste (tonnes)	236,179	445,213	+47.4	6.10
<b>Recycling</b>				
% household waste recycled	15.9	24.1	+8.2	6.11
<b>Deprivation</b>				
Number of income support claimants aged 16-59 per 1,000 population*	26.6	25.1	-1.5	3.28
Number of disability living allowance claimants per 1,000 population	32.5	39.9	+7.4	4.26
<b>Education</b>				
Percentage of 15 yr olds in LA schools achieving 5+ GCSEs A*-C	55.8	60.2	+4.4	3.19
<b>Crime</b>				
Domestic burglary per 1,000 dwellings	14.5	10.9	n/a**	2.45
Violent crime per 1,000 population	12.8	15.4	n/a**	2.45
Vehicle crime per 1,000 population	6.3	10.2	n/a**	2.45
<b>Rural Communities</b>				
Area of land in agricultural use (hectares)	153,851	158,144	+2.7	6.23
<b>Older People</b>				
Proportion of older people enabled to live at home per 1,000 population	64.2	60.0	-4.2	4.64

\*The income support indicator now excludes people aged 60+ due to the introduction of pension credit on 6 October 2003

\*\*New recording rules introduced in 2002 exclude 2005 comparison with baseline performance (2001)