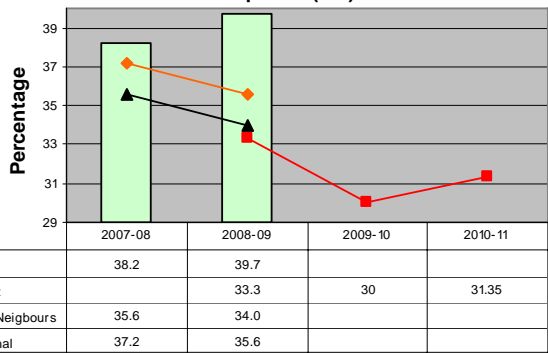| Improvement Priority – TP-3b. Reduce the number of children in poverty	Overall Progress

Improvement Priority – TP-3b. Reduce the number of children in poverty

Accountable Officer – Sally Threlfall
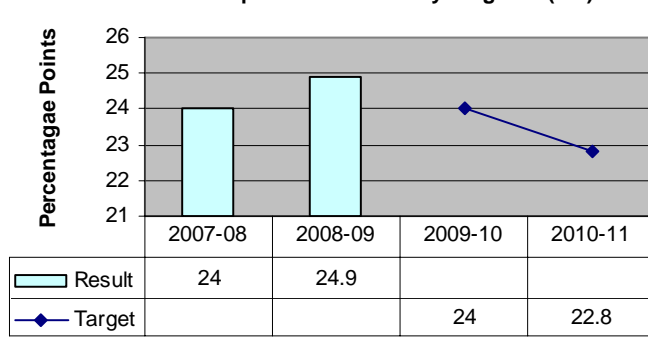
<div>Overall Progress ⬆</div>

Why is this a priority	Reducing the number of children in poverty is a strategic outcome in Leeds Strategic Plan. We know that poverty is the root of most poor outcomes for children and blights the lives of too many children in Leeds. Poverty lies behind the common factors for poor outcomes and must be addressed if we are to narrow the gap between the most and least advantaged children, young people and families.

NI 92 - The gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and their peers (fall)

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Result	38.2	39.7		
Target		33.3	30	31.35
Stat. Neigbours	35.6	34.0		
National	37.2	35.6		

NI 102A - Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2 (fall)

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Result	24	24.9		
Target			24	22.8

Overall Progress to date and outcomes achieved

Overall Summary

Whilst reducing Child Poverty is a stand alone improvement priority within the Leeds Strategic Plan it should be recognised that significant work is happening across the narrowing the gap agenda that is having an impact on reducing child poverty. The Child Poverty Outcomes (CPO) group has developed its role and approach over the last 6 months in order to better understand some of the work that is already happening, to identify where and how it can add value by bringing a more co-ordinated approach and to ensure the right people are represented on the group.

Given the current economic circumstances and the fact that only partial data is available, progress is marked as Amber with an upward direction of travel.

Achievements since the last report

- The Common Assessment Framework is the primary assessment process used by all agencies for entry into, and exit from, multi-agency working where appropriate, by looking holistically at the needs of each child, young person and family. A new system has been established in the council's contact centre to help identify and appropriately redirect referrals made into the contact centre which are not for action by CYPSC. The result is that no caller receives 'no further action' and where social care thresholds are not met, callers are directed to support from another service e.g. offering family support services or suggesting the use of a Common Assessment to effectively assess needs.
- The Chief Officer Early Years and IYSS has met with the Director Of Environment and Neighbourhoods and has agreed a number of projects for the next 2 quarters which will focus on four key areas concerned with tackling the entrenched causes of poverty;
  - The co- ordination of all financial inclusion work across Departments.
  - Review the potential for connectivity of outreach and case work.
  - Raise the profile of well being and aspiration, establishing linkages between Early Years, Education, the Learning Skills Council, IYSS and Targeted Youth Support.
  - Establish *a think family* approach to services, especially for those with high levels of need. A preliminary meeting between the new Parenting Commissioner, the Commissioner for Adult Social Care and the Head of Jobs and Skills and the Chief Officer Early Years and IYSS has taken place

Challenges/Risks

- The ability to identify project management support to drive this priority forward

Council / Partnership Groups	Child Poverty Strategic Outcome Group (30/10/09)		
Approved by *(Accountable Officer)*	Sally Threlfall	**Date**	30/10/09
Approved by *(Accountable Director)*	Neil Evans	**Date**	9/11/09

Improvement Priority – TP-3b. Reduce the number of children in poverty

Accountable Officer – Sally Threlfall

	Action (Desired Achievements)	Contributory Officer / Partner	Milestone / Actions	Timescale
Key actions for the next 6 months				
1.	Identify Project Management Support to help drive this priority	Heather Pinches	Determine whether a project manager can be allocated from the corporate performance team	Dec 2009
2.	To consider the impact of the Child Poverty Bill on the local authority and report to be taken to CLT on the policy implications.	Sally Threlfall (ST)/ Martyn Long (ML)	Report to CLT	TBD depending on progress of bill
3.	The coordination of all financial inclusion work across Partners.	Dave Roberts	ST or LM to attend Financial inclusion steering group to identify how the work of the 2 groups can be linked to ensure better co-ordination and to ensure data / intelligence is shared and acted on.	Dec 2009
4.	Review the potential for connectivity of outreach and case work.	Lisa Martin (LM)/ Martyn Long	Members of the CPO Group to identify where the generic outreach or case work has been commissioned by their service (LM to send out amended template).	Dec 2009
5.	Establish a think family approach to services, especially for those with high levels of need. (A preliminary meeting between the new Parenting Commissioner, the Commissioner for Adult Social Care and the Head of Jobs and Skills and the Chief Officer Early Years and IYSS has taken place).	Sally Threlfall	ST to meet James Rogers to identify where this work needs to fit in corporately prior to the development of a work plan.	Dec 2009
6.	Raise the profile of well being and aspiration, establishing linkages between Early Years, Education, the Learning Skills Council, IYSS and Targeted Youth Support.	John Freeman	JF to bring a model to the next meeting into which the various work of departments and partners can be captured.	Dec 2009

Performance Indicators

Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority

Ref	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 116	Proportion of children in poverty	Children's Services	Annually %	Fall	Baseline and targets to be provided by April 2010					N/A
NI 158	Percentage of non-decent council homes	Strategic Landlord	Monthly %	fall	18.5% (2008/09)	18.5%	10.0%	15.6%	10.0%	No concerns

Improvement Priority – TP-3b. Reduce the number of children in poverty

Accountable Officer – Sally Threlfall

Performance Indicators										
Performance indicators aligned to the Improvement Priority										
Ref	Title	Owner	Frequency & Measure	Rise or Fall	Baseline	2008/09 Result	2009/10 Target	2009/10 Quarter 2	Current Predicted Full Year Result	Data Quality
NI 187a	Tackling fuel poverty - % of people receiving income based benefits in homes with a low energy efficiency rating (SAP < 35)	Fuel Savers	Annually %	Fall	7.90% (2007/08)	6.63%	5.85%	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 187b	Tackling fuel poverty, % of people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a high energy efficiency rating (SAP >= 65)	Fuel Savers	Annually %	Rise	34.59% (2007/08)	35.75%	38.12%	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 153	Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods	Regeneration	Quarterly %	Fall	28.7% (2007)	27.3%	27.7%		29.8%	No concerns
LSP-TP1e	Increase the number of new customers on low incomes accessing credit union services (savings, loans and current accounts).	Strategy and Policy	Quarterly Number	Rise	6,700 (2007)	5,971	3,500 new members	696 new members	3,500 new members	No concerns
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	School Improvement	Annually %	Fall	38.2% (2006/07 academic year)	39.7%	30.0%	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 102A	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2	Education Leeds	Annually %	Fall	25.6% (2006/07 academic year)	24.9% points	24% points	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 102B	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stage 4	Education Leeds	Annually %	Fall	32.0% (2006/07 academic year)	32.7% points	28% points	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 118	Take up of formal childcare by low-income working families	Childcare and Early Years	Annually %	Rise	19.0% (2005/06)	20.70% (07/08)	N.A.	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns
NI 117	16 - 18 year olds who are not in education training or employment (NEET)	Youth Services	Annually %	Fall	9.1% (An average of Nov, Dec 2006 and Jan 2007)	9.5%	7.8%	Annual indicator	Annual indicator	No concerns