

By: **Mike Hill, Cabinet Member for Communities**
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To: **Communities POC – 17 September 2009**

Subject: ***Towards 2010 – Third Annual Report***

Classification: **Unrestricted**

SUMMARY

This report sets out the process for finalising the third *Towards 2010* Annual Report prior to approval by County Council on 15 October and attaches a draft of the report (concerning the 17 targets led by the Communities Directorate) for Members' comment.

FOR INFORMATION AND COMMENT

1. Introduction

Towards 2010 was formally launched in September 2006. Annual reports on progress against all 63 targets are discussed and approved by County Council each autumn.

Communities has made good progress against the targets on which it leads and its services are explicitly mentioned in the list of partners for fifteen other targets, and contribute to even more. The reports attached in Appendix One also contain numerous examples of where services within the directorate make a difference to local communities, with Trading Standards Officers, Community Wardens, Librarians, Youth Workers and other staff often working together. KCC's Supporting Independence function transferred to the Communities Directorate from 1st April 2009 and progress against the four targets it leads on features in Appendix One.

Much progress has been made over the past three years, and there is still more to come in the next twelve months. Upcoming events / activity include:

- The 2nd **Kent School Games** will be launched at the end of September 2009, culminating with a Finals event in June 2010, featuring an increased number of sports and competitions and an increased cultural element to the Games.
- A county **Youth Theatre Festival** will be developed with partners and staged in 2010, building on the success of the inaugural event in March 2009, while a **Kent Cultural Strategy** will be launched in Spring 2010, which will provide a manifesto accompanied by clear protocols that enable the maximisation of opportunities for arts and culture in Kent.
- Continuation of the **library modernisation** programme, with several more to be completed in 2010.
- Completion of the building works on the **Turner Contemporary** gallery in Margate.
- **Volunteering**: An online media campaign targeting people with professional skills to aid voluntary organisations, for example by becoming Trustees.

- **Inter-generational work:** Several services are exploring ways to bring generations together in local communities.
- The Community Safety and Trading Standards services have a particularly important role to play in the current economic climate. KCC Community Wardens are developing a new scheme, “**Bluff the Bogeyman**”, designed to help protect elderly or vulnerable people from opportunist criminals and distraction burglars, while Trading Standards will continue to disrupt the activity of rogue traders and focus attention on **loan sharks**, building on the awareness campaign in Spring 2009.
- The Supporting Independence team led the successful KCC bid for the Government’s **Future Jobs Fund** initiative, which will create 1,000 job opportunities across Kent for 18-24 year olds that have been unemployed for 12 months or more – details will be worked up in the coming months and several services within the Communities Directorate are planning to offer opportunities.

2. Format

Separate reports for each target include the following elements:

- Status of the target (either ‘More progress needed’, ‘On course’ or ‘Done and ongoing’);
- List of partners with whom we are delivering this target;
- Outcomes delivered so far;
- What more are we going to do?
- Measurable indicators (where relevant – as agreed at County Council in December 2007).

3. Summary

The Towards 2010 targets relevant to this Committee are shown in the table below together with the relevant status. Two of the seventeen CMY-led targets are currently listed as ‘Done and Ongoing’, thirteen are ‘On Course’ for achievement by 2010, with two listed as ‘More Progress Needed’.

Towards 2010 Target	Status
Target 9: Through our Kent Supporting Independence Programme, work towards reducing the number of people dependent on welfare benefits	More Progress Needed
Target 18: Introduce a Kent Apprenticeship Scheme, offering at least 1,000 apprenticeship opportunities across the private and public sectors	More Progress Needed
Target 19: Introduce the Kent Community Programme, building teams of apprentices to participate in community projects	Done and Ongoing
Target 20: Build strong business-education partnerships that benefit both employers and schools	On Course

Target 57: Build on the successful Kent Community Warden scheme, supporting Kent Police in their visible Neighbourhood Policing programme and working with them and the CDRPs to strengthen the police presence in problem areas	On Course
Target 58: Help maintain Kent's low levels of burglary and car theft and work with off-licence, pub and club owners to reduce alcohol-fuelled crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse.	On Course
Target 61: Extend our public awareness campaign to alert people to the activities of rogue traders, particularly those involved in door-to-door sales, and increase the number of offenders prosecuted	On Course
Target 62: Expand the Kent 'HandyVan' scheme, making the homes of older and vulnerable people more secure.	On Course
Target 60: Support young people to reduce the risk of them offending	On Course
Target 22: Establish a biennial Kent School Games and support Kent sports men and women to compete in the 2012 London Olympics and Paralympics (joint with CFE).	Done and Ongoing
Target 47: Create and launch initiatives that facilitate more competitive sport in schools, support after-school sports clubs and sponsor more inter-school competitions and holiday sports programmes. (joint with CFE).	On Course
Target 28: Support and encourage the large number of local and voluntary groups and sports clubs in Kent	On Course
Target 63. Promote the Kent Volunteers Programme and work with other partners to attract more volunteers	On Course
Target 23: Facilitate and enhance the development of Kent Youth Theatre activities	On Course
Target 25: Promote Kent as a centre for the arts, encouraging the	On Course

development of a network of music and cultural venues across the county	
Target 26: Modernise the library service so it also acts as a focal point for KCC services and widens access to Kent's rich culture.	On Course
Target 27: Open the Turner Contemporary gallery, Margate, in 2010	On Course

4. Approval process

Relevant reports in the draft Annual Report will be discussed at the September meetings of all Policy Overview Committees to enable Members to comment prior to its finalisation for Cabinet and County Council meetings on 12th October and 15th October respectively. They are attached as appendix One.

5. Recommendation

Members are asked to NOTE and COMMENT on reports attached at Appendix ONE.

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