Public Service Agreement – Target 2 "Promoting Quality of Life and Independence of Older People"

TEMPLATE FOR SHARING INFORMATION FOR ANNUAL REPORT

1.	Name of Target 2 Lead	
2.	Who does the Target 2 lead report to in the partner agency?	
3.	Has partner agency accessed pump priming money to set up a joint post?	
4.	Details: (i) Name of post (ii) Name of postholder (iii) Date commenced in post	
5.	List of work undertaken by postholder to promote quality of life and independence of older people	Through Care & Repair, 1742 enquiries were dealt with for advice and support related to helping them to remain independent in their own homes. Of those, 27 people were assisted with Disabled Facilities Grant funded adaptations to their homes, 9 people were assisted with grants to improve their homes and 28 people were assisted to carry out repairs and improvements to their homes, which were funded by their own or other means. Advice and assistance have been provided to ensure that people are claiming their entitlement to benefits and charitable funding has been sourced to assist people to pay for works required in their homes, which is not eligible for grant funding.

In addition, 1462 works have been carried out through the Handyperson Service, fitting minor aids and adaptations and carrying out small works around the home to prevent risk of accidents and keep people safe and secure in their homes.

New targeted Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy implemented focussed on vulnerability. The Policy assists priority vulnerable groups including older people and people with disabilities. Specific assistance directly implemented to improve the quality of life and independence of older people including:-

Home Health and Safety Assistance – to assist older owner occupiers on certain means tested benefits to carry out essential works of repair which present risks to the occupiers health and safety

PHEEW (Promoting Home Energy Efficiency and Warmth) Grant – to assist older and/or disabled owner occupiers by providing and energy efficiency grant to reduce the incidence of Fuel Poverty amongst some of our most vulnerable residents.

Wyred for Energy Scheme – this scheme offers residents of mobile and park homes (who are most often older people) the opportunity of home energy efficiency improvements through the installation of external wall insulation.

Home Improve an equity loan scheme for low income home owners (targeted at equity rich but cash poor older home owners) to release equity in property to

conduct essential repairs.

Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants - to provide adaptations to the homes of disabled persons to meet their needs.

Home Loss and Disturbance Grant – a discretionary Disabled Facilities Grant to free up already adapted Registered Social Landlord properties for those in need of adaptations in the social rented sector.

A priority based assessment system has been introduced to ensure that those most in need of disabled adaptations get them first. Based on best practice from ODPM and other authorities, a multi agency prioritisation panel, with representatives from WBC, OT Service, Social Services, PCT, and Wyre Housing Association, decide the priority to be allocated to an individual application against agreed criteria.

A fast track hospital discharge procedure for Disabled Facilities Grants has been implemented.

A Wyre Borough Council and Wyre Housing Association Disabled Facilities Partnership Group has been established to oversee the provision of disabled adaptations in Wyre Housing Association housing stock and to increase capital expenditure on disabled adaptations. As a result an additional £110k of funding for DFG's was provided by the RSLin 2005/06. An additional £230k of Wyre Housing Association DFG funding has been secured for 2006/07.

In 2004/05 working with Wyre Housing Association we successfully bid for £25k of Housing Corporation funding which was matched with £25k from WHA resulting in £50k of extra DFG's.

We have expanded our successful Care and Repair Service into Fylde and secured funding from Fylde Borough Council, Wyre PCT, and Social Services. The service was awarded the quality mark from the National Home Improvement Agency in November 2005. The service links with a series of other statutory and voluntary agencies such as the fire service and Age Concern.

Through Care & Repair, 1742 enquiries were dealt with for advice and support related to helping them to remain independent in their own homes. Of those, 27 people were assisted with Disabled Facilities Grant funded adaptations to their homes, 9 people were assisted with grants to improve their homes and 28 people were assisted to carry out repairs and improvements to their homes, which were funded by their own or other means. The service is used to deliver home security and safety equipment such as smoke alarms, deaf aids and operated an electric blanket exchange.

Advice and assistance has been provided to ensure that people are claiming their entitlement to benefits and charitable funding has been sourced to assist people to pay for works required in their homes which is not eligible for grant funding.

In addition a Handyperson Service has been established, 1462 works have been carried out by this service, fitting minor aids and adaptations and carrying out small works around the home to prevent risk of accidents and keep people safe and secure in their homes. Since April 2003 we have completed 343 Disabled Facilities Grants to a value of £1, 591 023. Since April 2003 we have delivered 181 grants to a value of £1,004 000 to secure essential repairs to the homes of vulnerable residents. We have established shared objectives to help vulnerable people to stay in their own homes when they choose to via our Local Strategic Partnership Homes and Communities Theme Group. An initiative has been progressed to develop the strategic interface between Housing and Social Care improving liaison between County Council and Borough **Council on Extra Care and Older Peoples Strategy** development. We have worked to address the shortfall in homes that meet the needs of older people with housing developers and partner housing associations and have have been successful in attracting Housing Corporation funding for the remodelling of outdated sheltered housing schemes. Target set that all minor aids and adaptations fitted Has partner agency set any targets to monitor progress

	against Target 2? If so, please supply details. For example: Waiting lists for OT assessment / new extra care sheltered housing / delivery of aids and equipment for daily living	within D54 timescales (7 days for all cases, 48 hours for hospital discharge cases)
7.	Is partner agency in regular contact with Social Services Locality Manager? If so, how often do they meet and in what forum? For example: Local Implementation Team, LSP Health & Well-Being Sub Group, Supporting People Strategy Group	Yes – Wyre Disabled Facilities Grant Priority Panel (bimonthly), Wyre Extra Care Steering Group (Quarterly), Care and Repair (Wyre and Fylde) Steering Group (Quarterly), Wyre LSP Homes and Communities Theme Group (Quarterly).
8.	What are partner organisations objectives in relation to Target 2 for Year 3 (2005/6) of the PSA?	To continue working with partner agencies to identify and assist the most vulnerable and hardest to reach clients. To continue to provide services in people's homes which are preventative in nature, meeting people's needs to assist them to remain independent in their own homes Helping vulnerable people stay in their own homes when they choose to whilst ensuring that those who need supported housing can access it. To continue working with partner agencies to identify and assist the most vulnerable and hardest to reach clients. To continue to provide services in people's homes which are preventative in nature, meeting people's needs to assist them to remain independent in their own

		homes
9.	Concerns/Issues (Please feel free to describe any concerns or issues you have around Target 2)	Funding for the Handyperson Service was committed initially only to September 2005 by Lancashire Social Services. Without that funding continued delivery of the service could not be assured, which would adversely affect Target 2.
		Whilst we strive to ensure that those vulnerable clients that choose to can live in their own homes we also must work to ensure that sufficient affordable sheltered housing is available for the Boroughs residents. The provision of support for older people in their own homes must not be pursued to the exclusion of ensuring sufficient sheltered housing provision is available.

Please return to:

Lancashire Social Services

PO Box 162

East Cliff County Offices PR1 3EA Preston

By no later than 20 March 2006

Blair McPherson, PSA Target 2 Lead or e-mail to: Blair.McPherson@ssd.lancscc.gov.uk