




Tackling the problems of the most deprived communities



-  On or exceeding target
-  Progress unclear
-  Not yet on target



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Target 1: Increasing the participation of drug users in treatment



What did we say we would achieve?

We said we would increase the participation of drug users in treatment programmes by 55% by 2004.

How does this target help achieve our vision?

People addicted to drugs are often excluded from society because they cannot sustain employment or participate in their communities. Having little money and low self esteem can result in neglect of their own environment, which has an impact on those around them. Drug use and the illegal drugs trade are at the root of many crimes, which also impacts on communities. Getting users into drug treatment programmes can give them a chance to turn their lives around and make a contribution to their community. Reducing the number of users in an area can push out those trading in illegal drugs and reduce crime rates.

What did we achieve?

We have achieved significant improvements in this area. During 2004/05, we had 1031 drug users in treatment in the County. This represents an increase of around 264% over 1999/2000, when there were 390 users in treatment.

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Target 2: Increasing the proportion of drug users sustaining treatment



What did we say we would achieve?

We said we would increase, year on year, the number of drug users successfully sustaining or completing treatment programmes.

How does this target help achieve our vision?

Beating an addiction to drugs can be extremely hard. People starting drugs treatment programmes have made an important first step in turning their lives, and their communities, around. However, we acknowledge the pressures on those people, especially when finding it hard to make ends meet, feeling isolated and in physical distress. In order to make a real difference to local communities affected by drug use, we have recognised that we must not only work to get users into drug treatment programmes but must also help them to stay there.

What did we achieve?



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In 2004/05, 132 adults and 111 young people completed their drug treatment programmes. This compares to just 40 completing such programmes in 2001/02.

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Target 3: By increasing the number of children in permanent family placements



What did we say we would achieve?

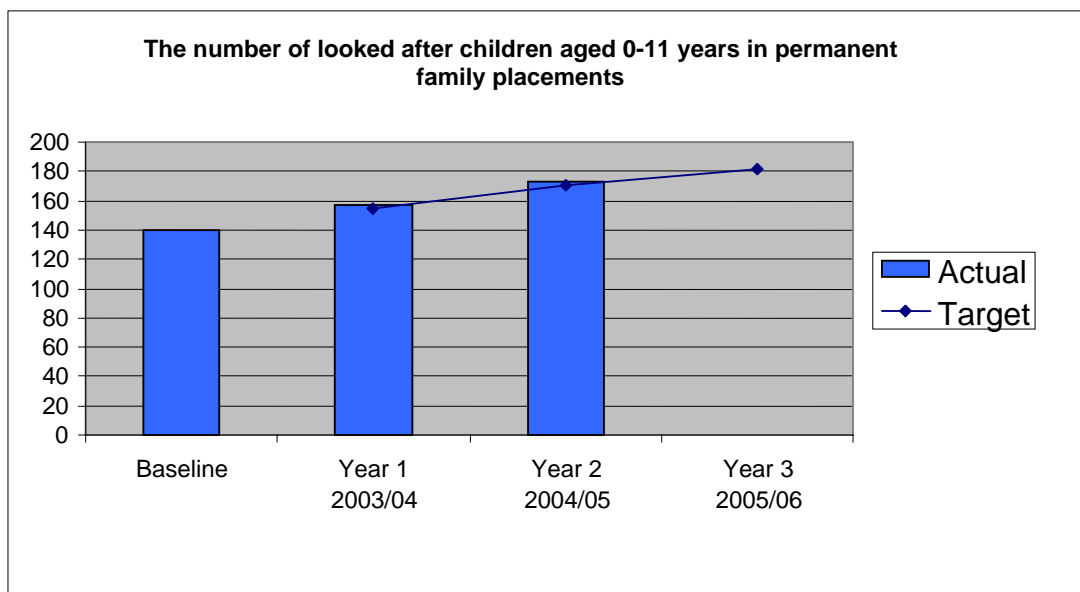
We said we would increase by 30 the number of looked after children aged 0-11 in permanent family placements between 2003 and 2005.

How does this target help achieve our vision?

While we endeavour to ensure that all our looked-after children have a caring home environment, permanent placement within a family can help them become part of their community and achieve stability, with the potential effects of better achievement at school and improved prospects when they grow up.

What did we achieve?

We have exceeded our target. In 2004/05, 173 looked-after children, up to the age of 11, were permanently placed with families, representing an increase of 33 since the baseline year.



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Target 4: Improving multi-occupied rented properties in urban areas



What did we say we would achieve?

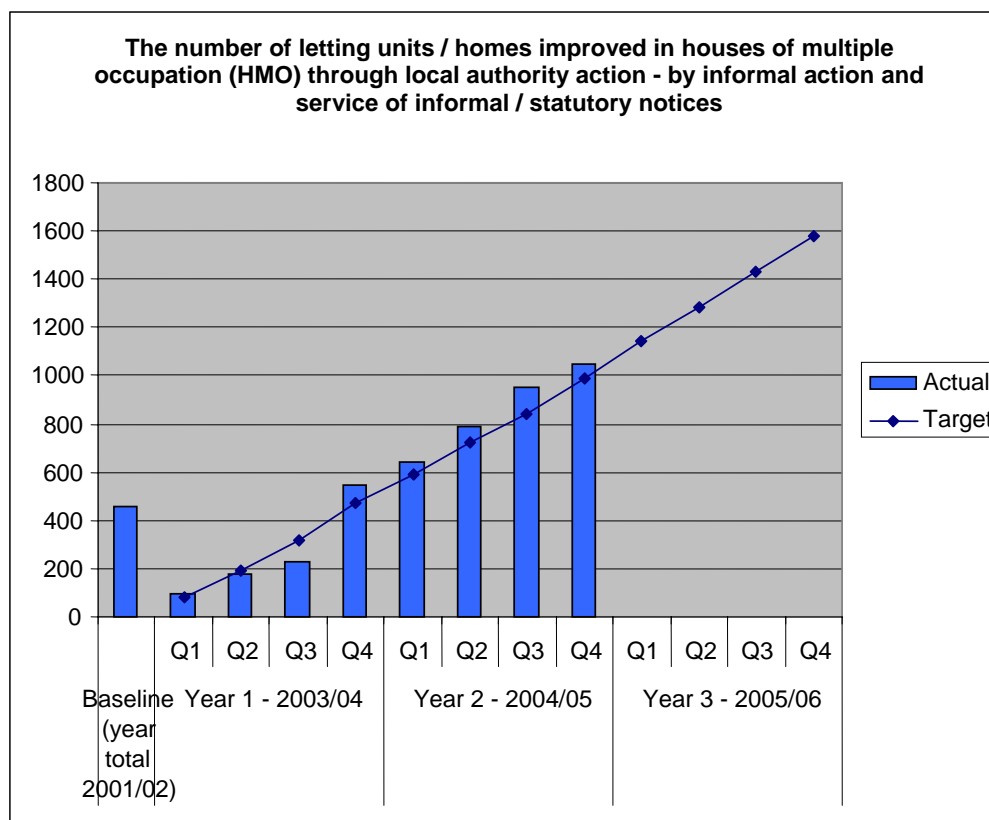
We said we would improve 1,580 private multi-occupied rented properties in Hastings, Eastbourne and Rother by April 2006.

How does this target help achieve our vision?

Improving people's home environments, ensuring they are fit to live in, is an important step to improving health and well-being in our community. Attractive premises and a cared for environment promote a safer and a more engaged community.

What did we achieve?

By April 2005, we had already improved 1050 private multi-occupied rented properties in Hastings, Eastbourne and Rother by informal action and service of informal or statutory notices. This means that we are on the way to meeting our April 2006 target.



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