

Understanding

the colour bands for performance indicators

The Council currently uses a 5 point scale to measure performance of each indicator against the target that was set at the beginning of the year. The scale usually chosen is as shown in the table below. However, the colour bandings can be set on an alternative scale if that is more appropriate, for example, where band thresholds have been set by inspectorates.

Legend	Colour	
Excellent	Very green	Has exceeded target by 5% or more
Good	Green	Has met or exceeded target by up to 5%
Adequate	Yellow	Just below target but not more than 5% below
Poor	Orange	Between 5 and 10% below target
Needs prompt attention	Red	More than 10% below target

It is important to remember that the legend and colour reflect performance against the Council's target and not necessarily performance against national or London benchmarks. Thus it is possible to have an indicator which shows "Excellent" for 2008/9 and yet we have more work to do to put us in a top quartile position. Conversely an indicator may show Orange or Red if an extremely challenging target was set, but may be in the top quartile of our comparator groups. If this is the case, the assessment of the indicator will point this out.

At this stage in the reporting year, benchmark information is not yet available for most indicators. As this becomes available the targets for 2009/10 may need to be revised.