COMMITTEE Housing and Environment DATE 13th April 2010

DIRECTOR Pete Leonard

TITLE OF REPORT Performance Report for Housing and Environment

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present committee with key performance measures for the Housing and Environment Service.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

To seek the Committee's comments and observations on the performance information contained in the report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct implications arising out of this report, although a number of comments are made on the use of resources.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

The performance reporting framework is integrated with the Council's ambition of being a top performing Council which delivers on the Community Plan and the Administration's Policy Statement.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other direct implications arising out of this report regarding legal, resource, personnel, property, equipment, sustainability and environmental, health and safety; although a number of comments are made on the use of resources.

6. REPORT

This report presents the key management information and performance indicators for the Housing and Environment Service. The report consists of two sections:

- (1) A progress report from the Director.
- (2) A summary in the format of a Performance Indicator Balanced Scorecard and detailed information supporting those indicators being considered this cycle.

The Performance Indicator Balanced Scorecard and supporting reports are now produced from Covalent, the corporate performance reporting system. When reviewing the data in the Performance Indicator Balanced Scorecard the following symbols are used

Traffic Light Icon

On target

Within 5% of target and being monitored



Within 20% of target and being actively pursued

Data only PI as there is no target set

Short Term Trend Arrow

Improvement from last reporting period

Reduction from last reporting period

No change since last reporting period

Unable to determine trend

Members are asked to note that in relation to details of sickness absence for Housing and Environment, the service continues to work with Corporate Governance with the aim of providing the information in the SPI format at the earliest opportunity.

In considering the information, and given the expectations laid down at the last Committee that members wish to review the most up-to-date information, it may be helpful to outline the process by which performance information is presented to Committee.

Within the service, performance information is collated on an agreed monthly frequency, and input into Covalent. The raw data is then reviewed by managers and actions identified as appropriate to ensure improvements in performance where necessary. This analysis and action is also input into Covalent.

On a monthly basis the performance information is reviewed by the Senior Management Team (SMT), who consider the data along with the analysis and the action proposed by the managers. If, on reviewing the information, the SMT consider that a different course of action is required from that proposed by the manager then this is communicated to the relevant manager through normal line management arrangements.

The performance information that is presented to Committee has therefore been reviewed within the service, by the Director and SMT who are accountable for performance. Members can then consider whether adequate management of performance is in place for each indicator.

7. AUTHORISED SIGNATURE

Pete Leonard Corporate Director Housing and Environment pleonard@aberdeencity.gov.uk

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Gillian Milne Operational Support Manager Housing and Environment gmilne@ aberdeencity.gov.uk

David Leslie Directorate Support Officer Housing and Environment dleslie@aberdeencity.gov.uk

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

N/A

DIRECTOR'S PROGRESS REPORT HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT 10 February - 24 March

Aberdeen Scientific Services Laboratory (ASSL) - Aberdeen Scientific Services Laboratory successfully completed a United Kingdom Accreditation Service extension to scope and surveillance visit on the 25 February 2010. UKAS accreditation visits are rigorous examinations of a laboratory's function, management and output and successful accreditation is a statutory obligation if to be considered as an official food and feed control laboratory. During the two day visit a team of auditors reviewed ASSL's guality management system and witnessed several analyses being undertaken reporting only minor observations and recommendations. The successful retention of the accreditation allows ASSL to continue to provide the highest quality service to the council and its local authority partners. In addition, the successful extension to the accredited scope of work allows ASSL to provide an expanded in-house and cost effective service to all clients. The assessment team was complimentary of the laboratory's function and management, "a pleasure to visit such a well run lab", and were especially complimentary of the excellent staff as, "a joy to work with", with the lead assessors official comment being especially welcome, "to sum up in a word, excellent!"

Biomass Heating at the David Welch Winter Gardens - On 16 February 2010, the Housing and Environment Committee approved a tender to be issued for the installation of a biomass heating system at The David Welch Winter Gardens. The proposal sees the existing oil and gas heating systems replaced with a biomass system, including the use of surplus wood from the Council's local parks in the biomass fuel supply contract, with a view to developing in the future a wood fuel production base in Aberdeen. The installation of this system will save the Council money; the estimated annual savings on running costs is £65,090. It could also contribute towards meeting our commitment to carbon reduction by reducing the amount of carbon dioxide generated by the Council by 697.9 tonnes annually.

Tree for every resident - Aberdeen City Council's plan to plant 180,000 trees by 2012 is on target with all external funding to deliver the first phase of this project now in place. Ten sites have been identified for the first 100,000 trees in places where extra planting can extend existing woodland or help join up isolated blocks to create better wildlife habitats. Local communities will be encouraged and supported to help plant some of the trees through work with the Countryside Ranger Service who have already signed up several schools to get involved along with staff from the Wood Group.

Bereavement Services - A service review of Bereavement Services is underway, to be completed summer 2010. The review to date has highlighted the need to reinstating the Bereavement Services Working Group and the first meeting of this group is to take place at the end of March. The working group is made up of council officers, funeral directors and other partners associated with bereavement and will meet twice a year in March and August to discuss issues relevant to Bereavement Services and the Crematorium. **Aberdeen In Bloom Projects -** In Hazlehead Park, works to replace rose beds in Piper Alpha and Queen Mothers rose gardens are scheduled to be complete by end of March. Works are also currently ongoing to construct/upgrade several corepaths throughout the city and are also scheduled to be complete by the end of March.

Countryside Ranger Service - The Woodland Community Ranger, Stephen Bly's, has been working in partnership with Criminal Justice Service, SHMU FM, HMP Craiginches and others in delivering the Bridges Project. Prisoners close to release undertake John Muir Awards with Stephen, to help integrate them into the community outside of Prison and into meaningful employment. The take up and continued attendance on the programme so far has been far higher than any other programme used in the Prison. The Countryside Rangers have also been working with Community Service Offenders to offer a more meaningful and useful programme of work and training, again to hopefully reduce re-offending, gain employment, build self esteem etc as well as benefiting the sites through more work being undertaken that otherwise would not be done and so benefiting human and wildlife users.

Safer Aberdeen - The Safer Aberdeen initiative to improve safety in the city centre continues to develop:

- A seminar for city centre retailers also involving Scottish Business Crime Centre, Shopsafe and Grampian Police was held on 22 February 2010.
- Membership of the retail crime initiative continues to grow and it now has 105 members.
- Safer Aberdeen launched its Bar Watch 24/7 initiative on 15 March 2010. Bar Watch involves sharing information on people responsible for alcohol related crime and antisocial behaviour in Aberdeen city centre between the Council, Grampian Police and the licensed trade.
- A new CCTV camera was installed at Western Road at the Woodside entrance to the railway underpass. This was installed using Fairer Scotland funding and in response to requests from local residents.
- An evaluation of portable public toilets used during night-time in the city centre finds that they are having a positive impact in reducing offences. A sixth portable toilet has been purchased using Scottish Government safer streets funding and is now being used in the east end of Union Street.
- City wardens and transport marshals distributed 2,000 cigarette pouches with the dual aim of promoting personal safety and correct disposal of cigarette butts.

Housing Mutual Exchange System - The online self service mutual exchange system went live on Monday 1 March. This allows our tenants to register their details online and then search for other tenants (either in Aberdeen or elsewhere) who may be suitable for an exchange. The system is easy to use and can be accessed via a link form the Council's website at <u>www.aberdeen.houseexchange.org.uk</u>. Once a tenant has found someone they wish to exchange with, they then need to apply to the Council for permission to exchange.

Coronation Court - Coronation Court Housing complex opened on 15 February 2010. The complex consists of 33 (mainly) 2 apartment flats with an extra care housing service; six of which are designed for persons with disabilities. This is a welcome addition to the supply of housing required to meet a growing need from an ageing population. The development will have links through an alarm service to a number of existing cottages in the immediate area and will enable many people to remain independently in a home of their own with dignity and the reassurance of support and care is at hand when needed; people who might otherwise have to move into a residential home.

Rent Management Initiatives Update - The pilot looked at how front line housing staff interact between their tenants and the finance service in relation to the payment and non payment of rent. Their aim was also to reduce notices served, court actions and costly evictions by providing sustained support and early intervention to tenants. This has also impacted on tenancy sustainment and homelessness prevention. Tenants are encouraged to make rent payments their priority and the team were particularly successful in the following areas:

- New Tenancies with arrears reduced by 25%
- Increase in housing benefit +£147,058
- Notices served on tenants for non payment of rent reduced by 54%
- Court warning letters reduced by 50%
- Tenants decamping prior to eviction date reduced by 50%

Committee Scorecard

Report Type: Scorecard Report **Report Author:** David Leslie **Generated on:** 31 March 2010



Name	
Housing and Environment Co	mmittee Scorecard

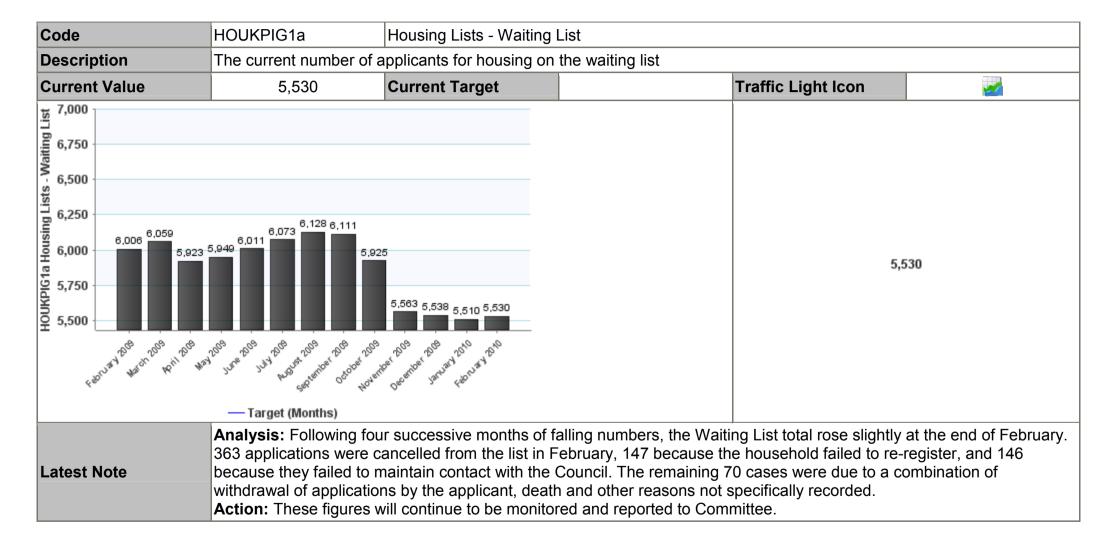
Traffic Light Icon	PI Code & Short Name	Last Update	Current Value	Current Target	Short Term Trend Arrow
?	H&E 1.1 Average repairs and maintenance expenditure per house per year	2009/10		£1,050	?
?	H&E 1.2 Average supervision and management expenditure per house	2009/10		£337	?
	H&E 1.3 Score compliance with health & safety matrix	February 2010	85%	100%	?
	H&E 1.5 % number of days lost per employee through sickness	February 2010	7.94%		1
	HOUKPIG1a Housing Lists - Waiting List	February 2010	5,530		
~	HOUKPIG1b Housing Lists - Transfer List	February 2010	2,490		1
Ø	HOUKPIR1a Response repairs completed in target (percentage) - Priority 1	January 2010	93%	94%	1
2	HOUKPIR1b Response repairs completed (number) - Priority 1	January 2010	1,457		1
	HOUKPIR2a Response repairs completed in target (percentage) - Priority 1/2	February 2010	95%	93.5%	
0	HOUKPIR3a Response repairs completed in target (percentage) - Priority 2	February 2010	90%	93.5%	

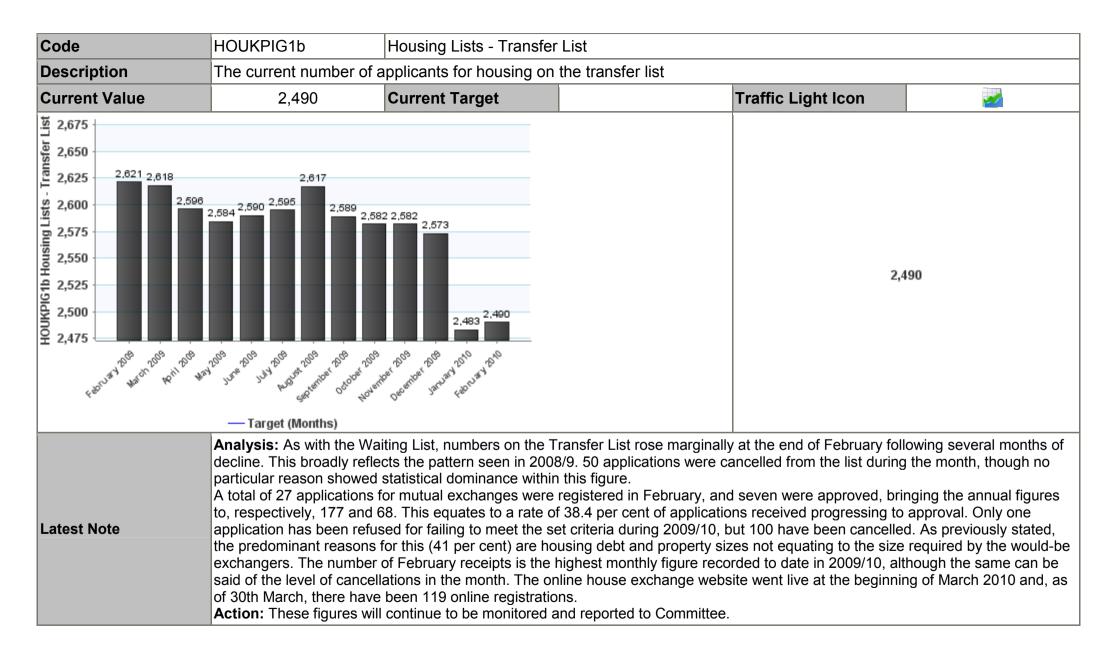
Traffic Light Icon	PI Code & Short Name	Last Update	Current Value	Current Target	Short Term Trend Arrow
Ø	HOUKPIR4a Response repairs completed in target (percentage) - Priority 3	February 2010	90%	93.5%	1
Ø	HOUSPI14a Number of response repairs completed (figures are cumulative)	February 2010	66,065	73,062	•
	HOUSPI14b Response repairs completed in target	January 2010	88%	95%	•
<u> </u>	HOUSPI16a Rent loss due to voids - Citywide	February 2010	1.02%	0.92%	₽
<u> </u>	HOUSPI17aiii Non-low demand relets (0-4 weeks) - Citywide	February 2010	49.1%	59%	
	HOUSPI17biii Low demand relets (0-4 weeks) - Citywide	February 2010	37.5%	59%	•
	HOUSPI18a Rent Arrears as a % of Net amount Due (SPI)	February 2010	7.7%	6%	-
<u> </u>	HOUSPI19aii Homeless Decision Notifications	February 2010	72.9%	80%	-₽-
<u> </u>	HOUSPI19aiii Statutory Homeless Lets	February 2010	42.7%	45%	
	HOUSPI19aiv Repeat Homelessness	Q3 2009/10	4.7%	2%	1
	HOUSPI19b Homeless Tenancy Sustainment	February 2010	94%	90%	-₽-
0	HOUSPI29a House Sales completed within 26 weeks - %	February 2010	97.4%	95%	
	H&E 3.01 Incidences of antisocial behaviour	February 2010	398		-₽-
1	H&E 3.02 Incidences of vandalism, malicious damage or malicious mischief	February 2010	257		
	H&E 3.07 Crime and antisocial behaviour incident reports made by City Wardens	February 2010	173		
	H&E 3.08 Number of fixed penalty notices issued for dog fouling	February 2010	8		
	H&E 3.09 Number of fixed penalty notices issued for littering	February 2010	13		
	ENV 1.01 Percentage Achieving Cleanliness	February 2010	91%	93%	

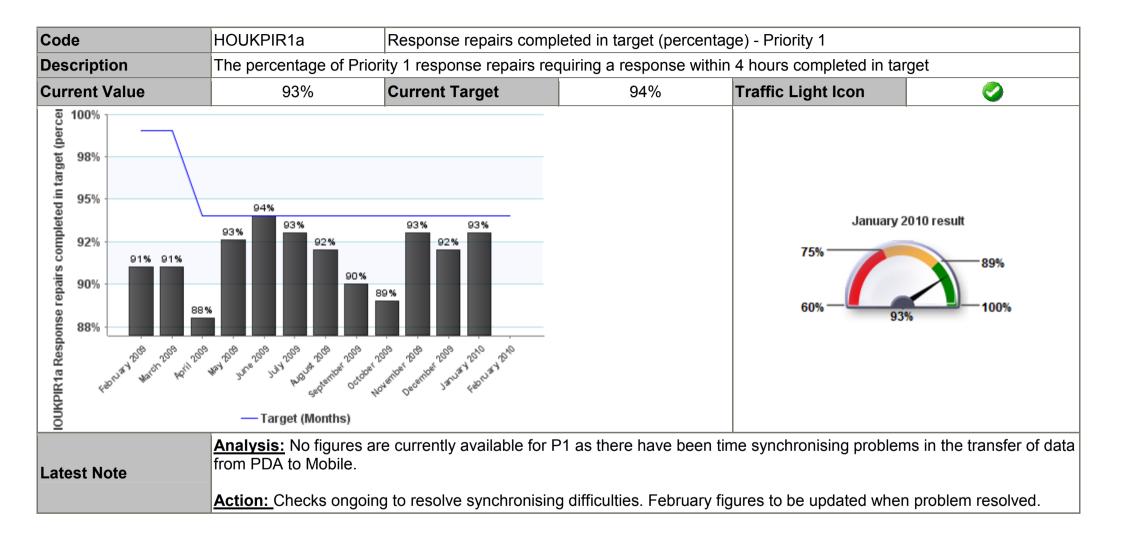
	ENV 1.02 Domestic Noise Complaints - Average Time to attend on site for (Non Part V - Average	2008/09	27 hours	48 hours	
	Dog Barking and EPA Domestic) Annual Average	,			
	ENV 1.03 (%) Non Domestic Noise Complaints % of complaints responded to within 2 days	January 2010	94.7%	100%	-
	ENV 1.04 (%) Non Domestic Noise Complaints % of complaints completed within 30 days	January 2010	78.9%	100%	1
0	ENV 1.05 (%) High Priority Pest Control Complaints % responded to within 2 days	January 2010	100%	100%	-
	ENV 1.06 (%) High Priority Pest Control Complaints % completed within 30 days	January 2010	90.4%	100%	
I	ENV 1.07 (%) Low Priority Pest Control Complaints % responded to within 5 days	January 2010	100%	100%	-
0	ENV 1.08 (%) Low priority Pest Control Calls % completed within 30 days	January 2010	100%	100%	1
0	ENV 1.09 (%) High Priority Public Health Complaints % responded to within 2 days	January 2010	98.7%	100%	1
	ENV 1.10 (%) High Priority Public Health Complaints % completed within 30 days	January 2010	88.6%	100%	
0	ENV 1.11 (%) Low Priority Public Health Complaints % responded to within 5 days	January 2010	98.6%	100%	•
	ENV 1.12 (%) Low Priority Public Health Complaints % completed within 30 days	January 2010	76.8%	100%	1
I	ENV 1.13 (%) Dog Fouling Complaints % responded to within 2 days	January 2010	97.3%	100%	
	ENV 1.14 (%) Dog Fouling Complaints % completed within 30 days	January 2010	91.8%	100%	
0	ENV 1.15 Food Safety Hygiene Inspections % premises inspected 6 monthly	Q3 2009/10	100%	100%	-
I	ENV 1.16 Food Safety Hygiene Inspections % premises inspected 12 monthly	Q3 2009/10	100%	100%	-
	ENV 1.17 Food Safety Hygiene Inspections % premises inspected more than 12 monthly	Q3 2009/10	86%	100%	
I	ENV 1.18 % of Waste Recycled/Composted	August 2009	29%	27%	
	ENV 1.19 Refuse Complaints received per 1000 households in each 4 week period	2009/10	27.6	20	•

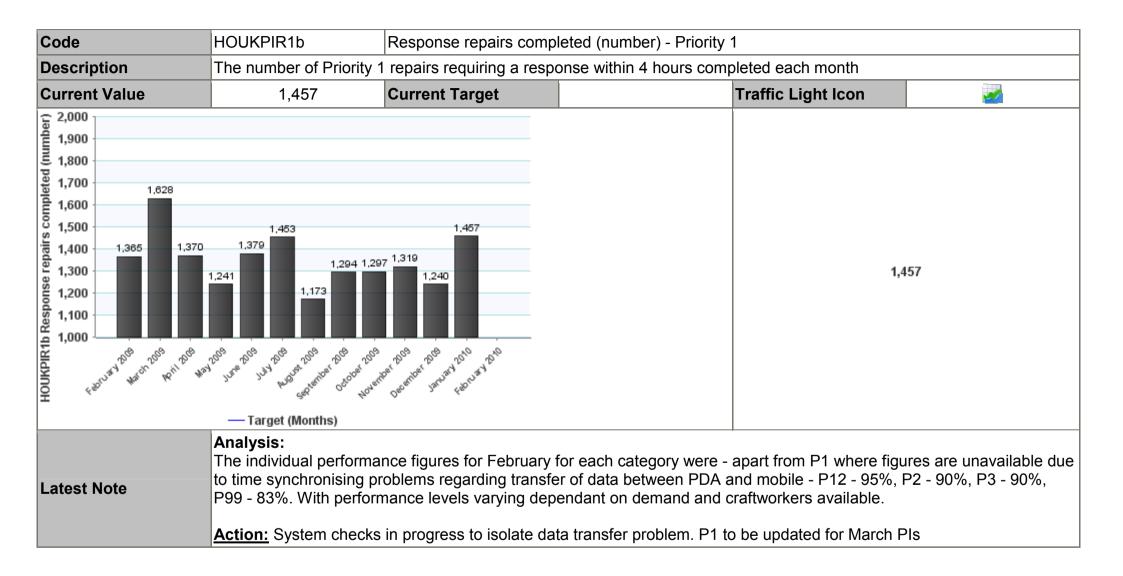
I	ENV 1.20 Turnaround Times	December 2009	97.95%	90%	4
I	ENV 1.21 % Quality Assurance Performance	Q3 2009/10	96.8%	95%	
I	ENV 1.22 % Productivity Hours	Q3 2009/10	87.24%	75%	

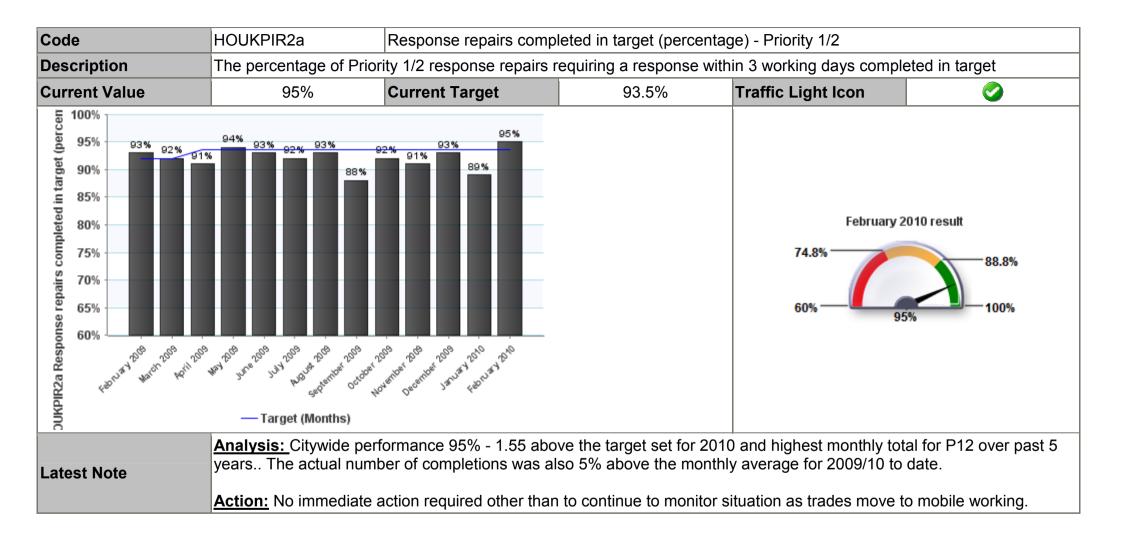
Committee Performance Report

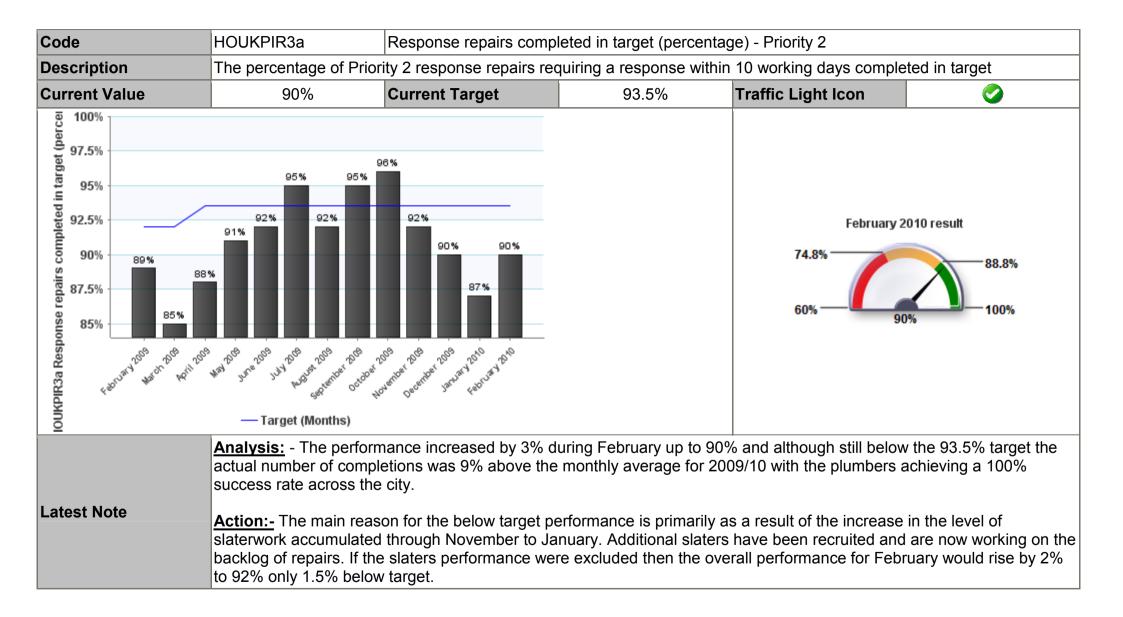


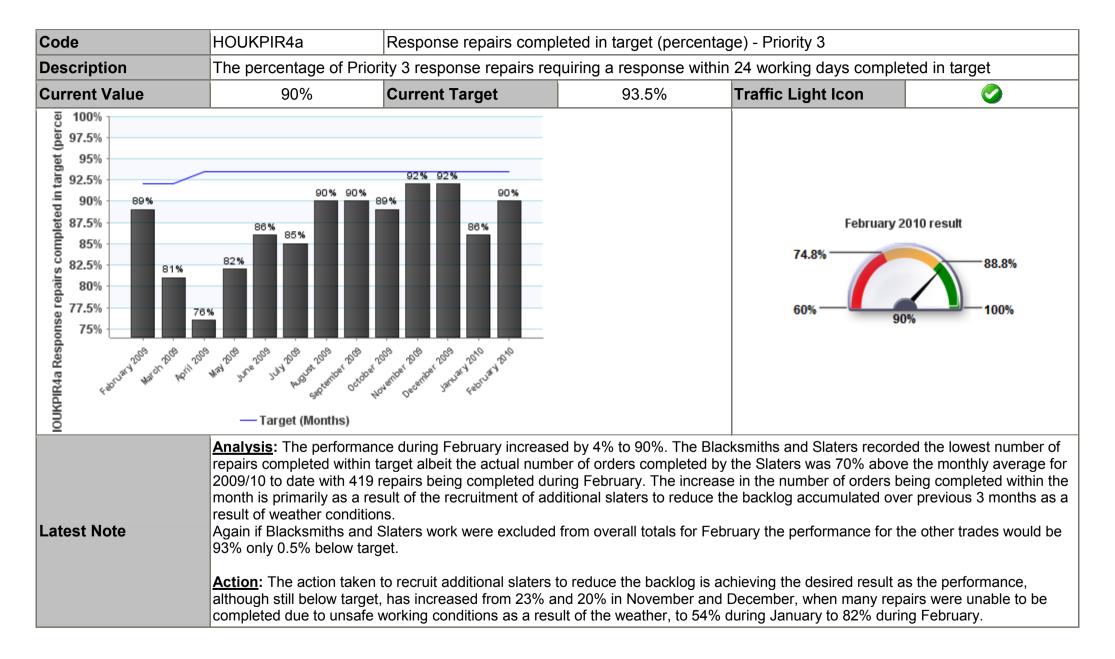


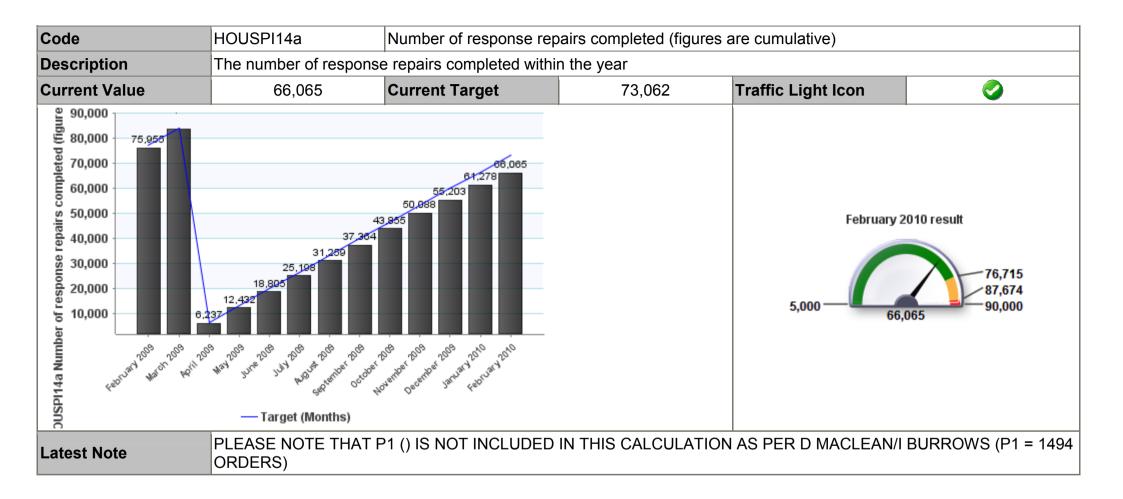


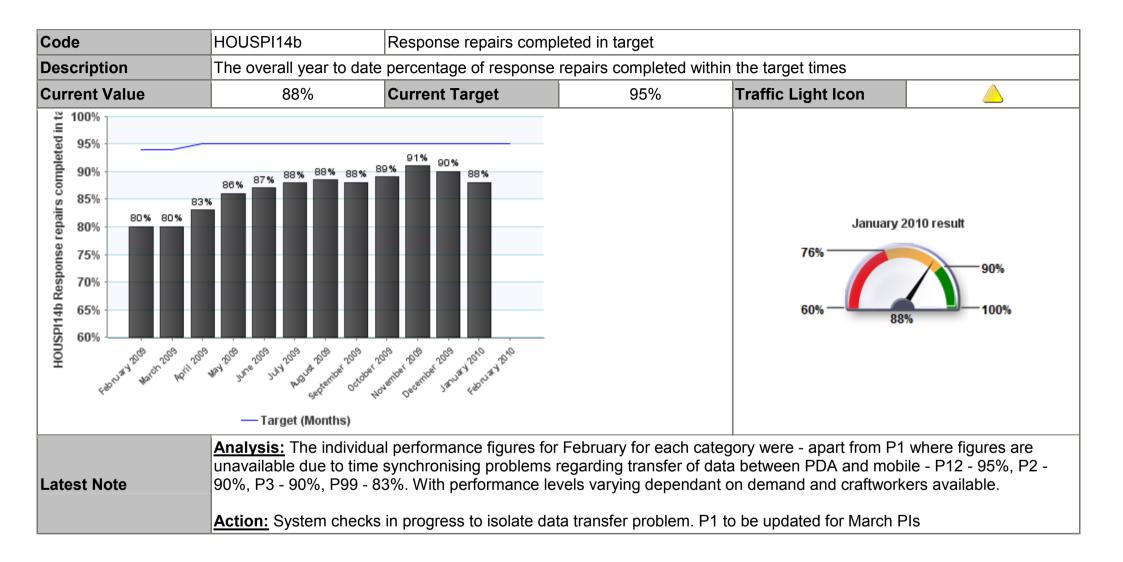


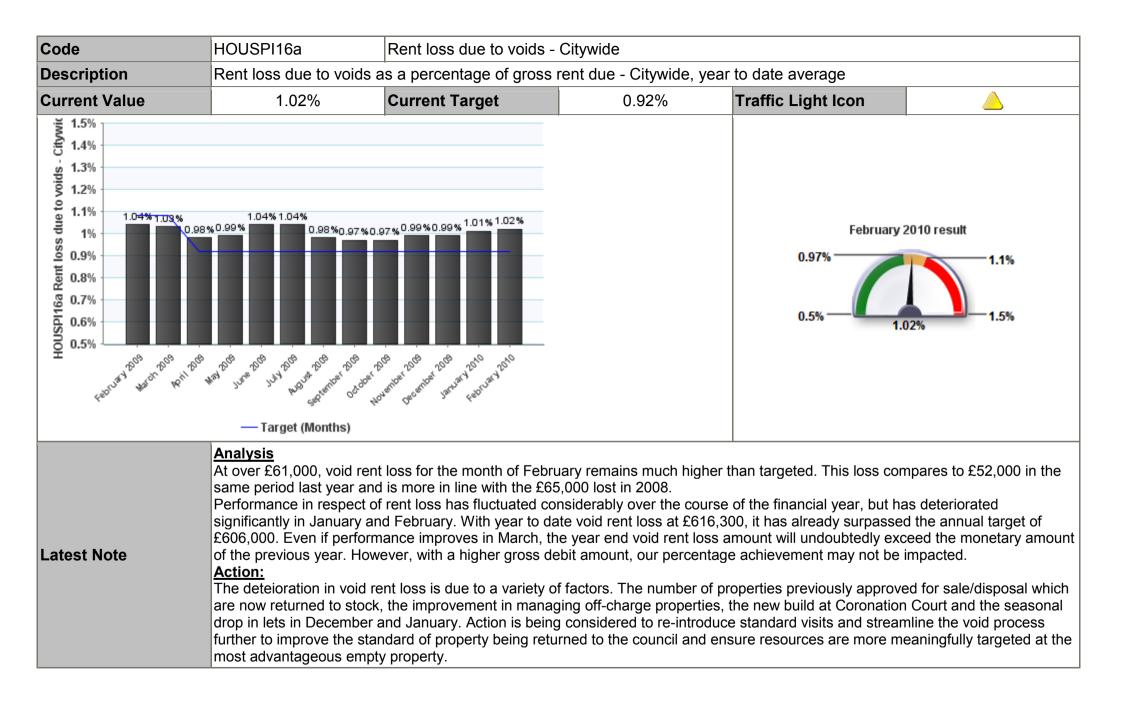


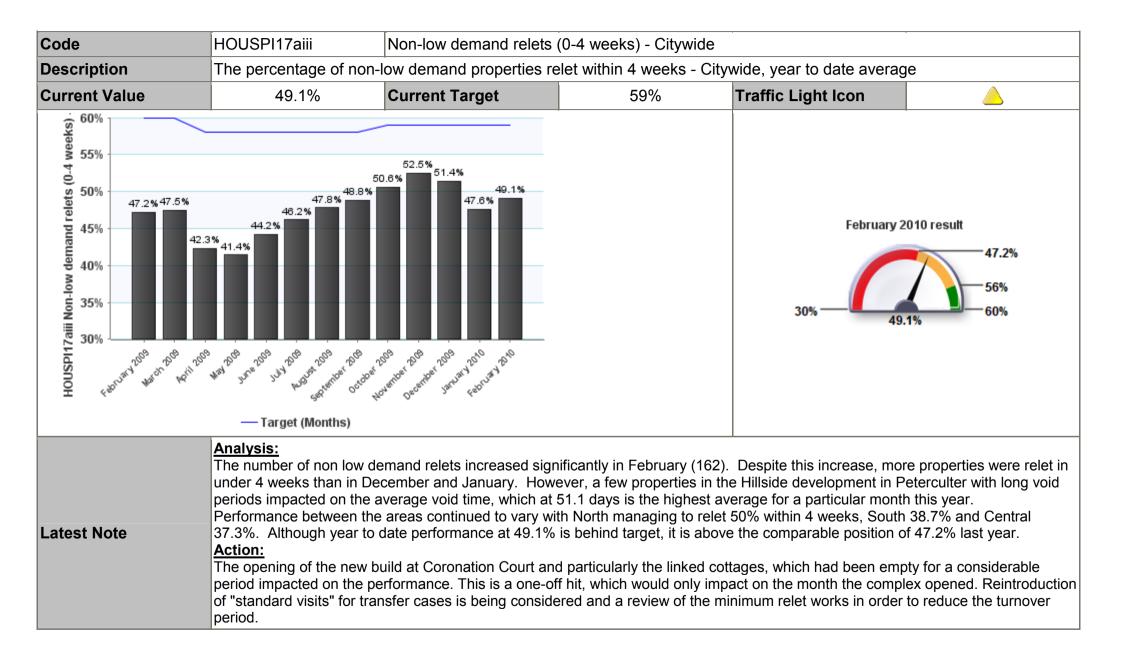


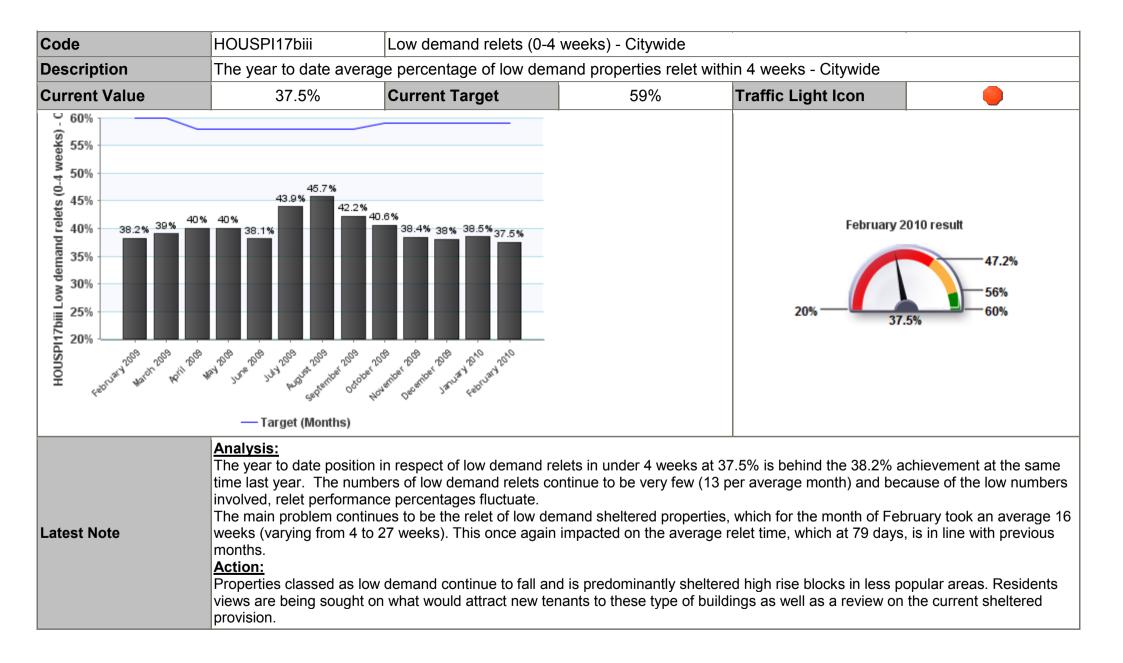


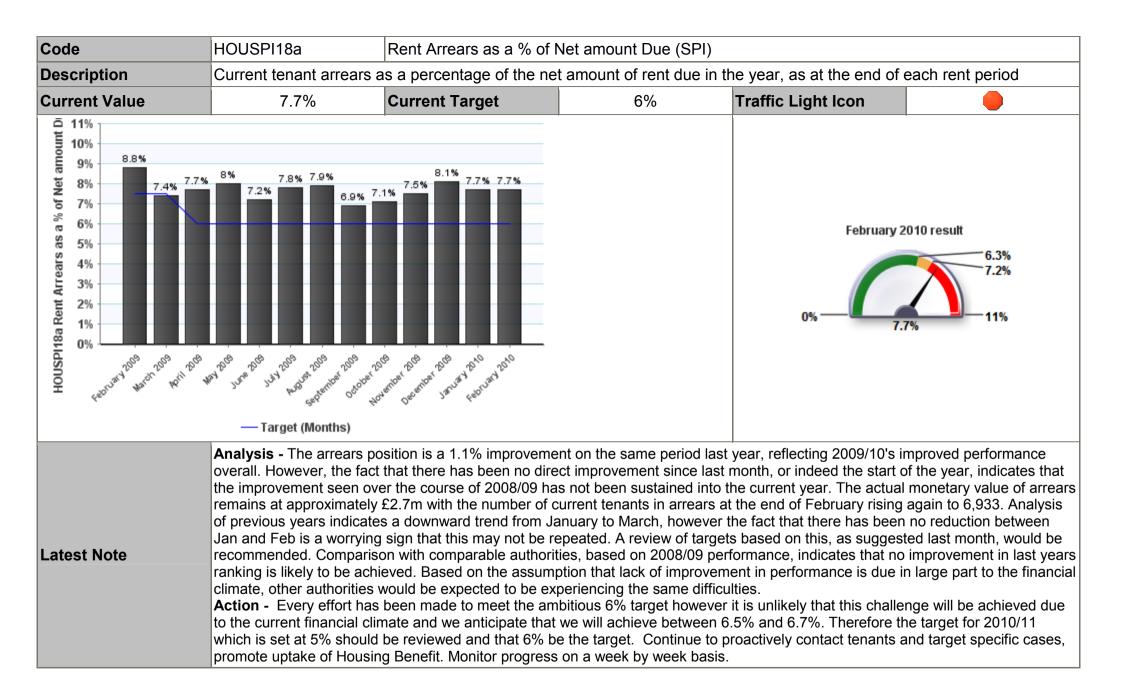


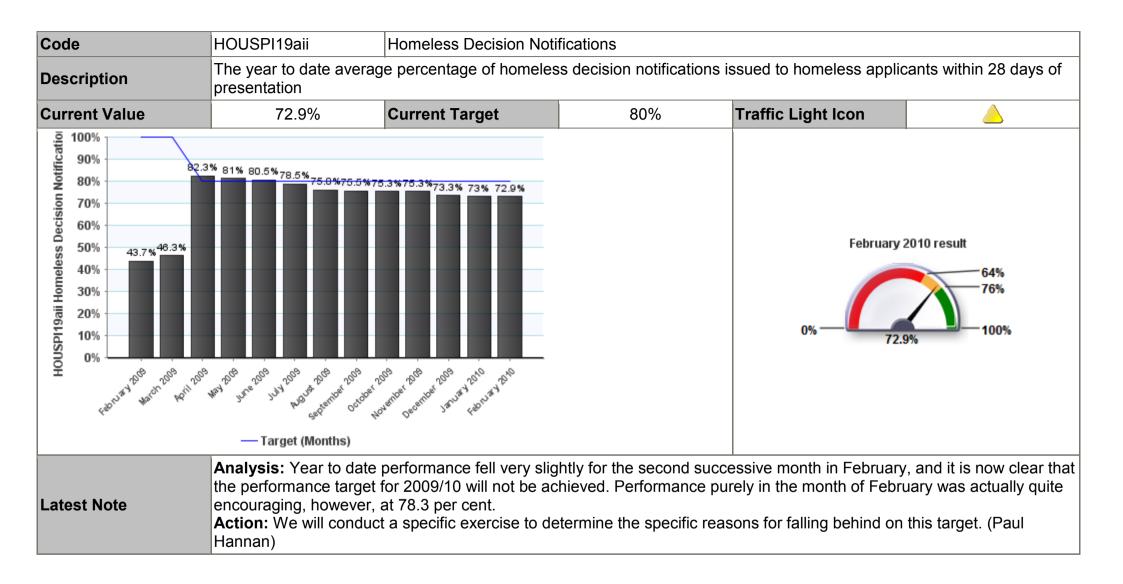


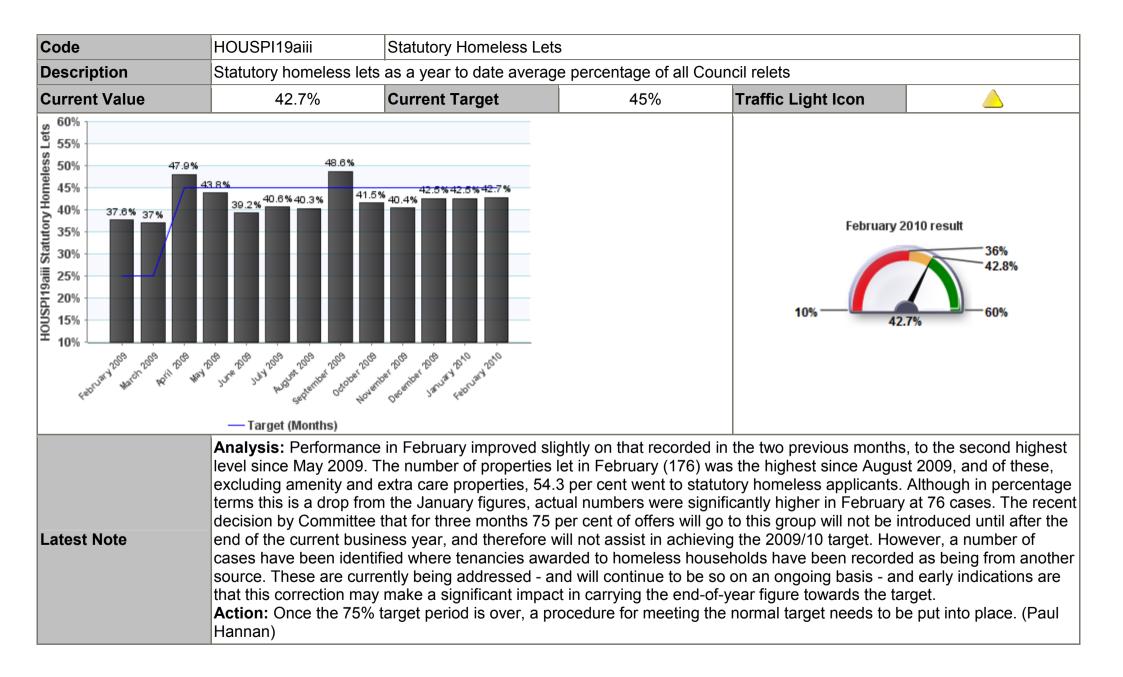


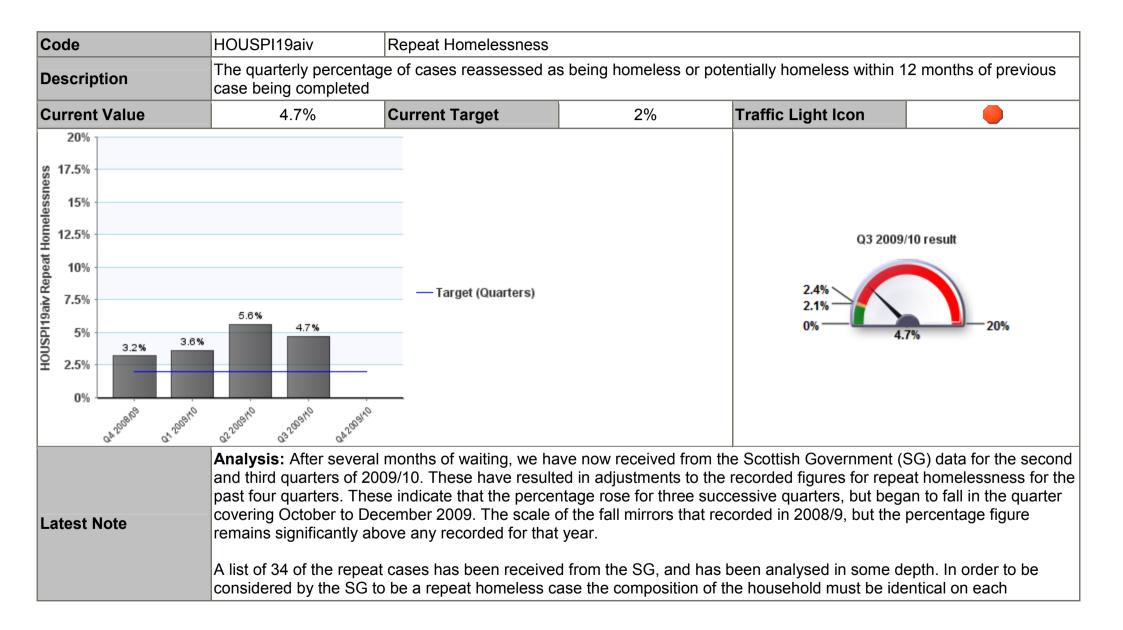






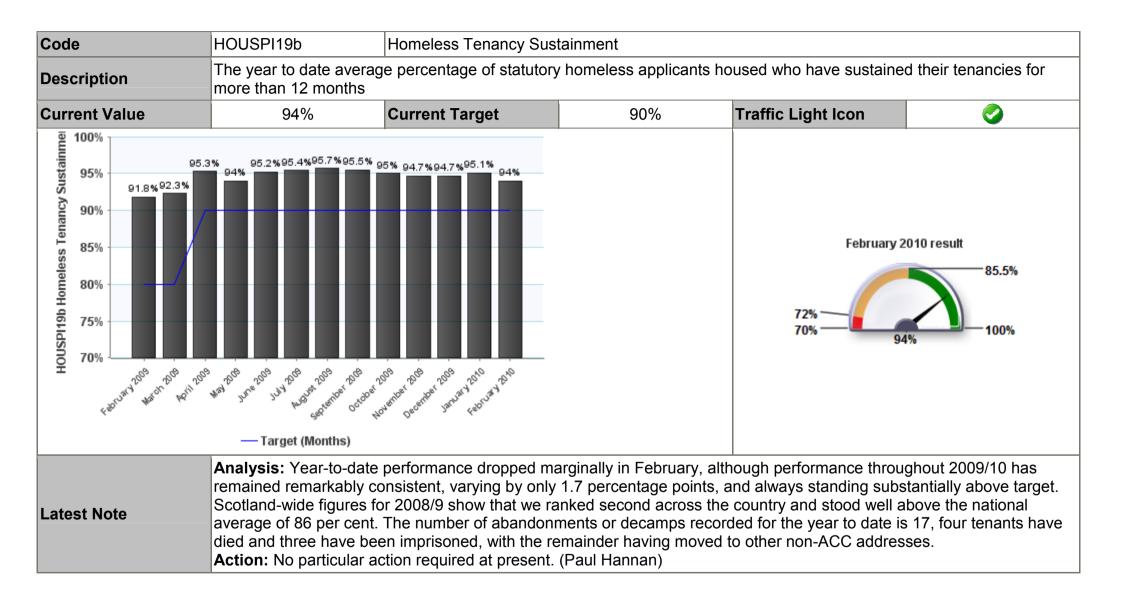


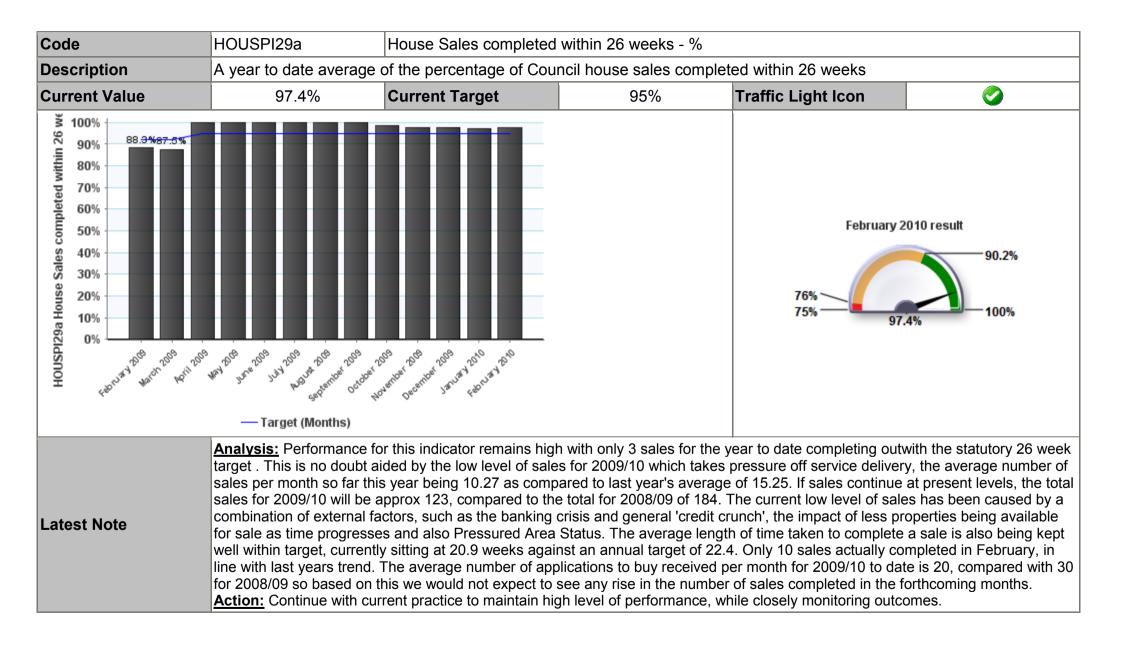


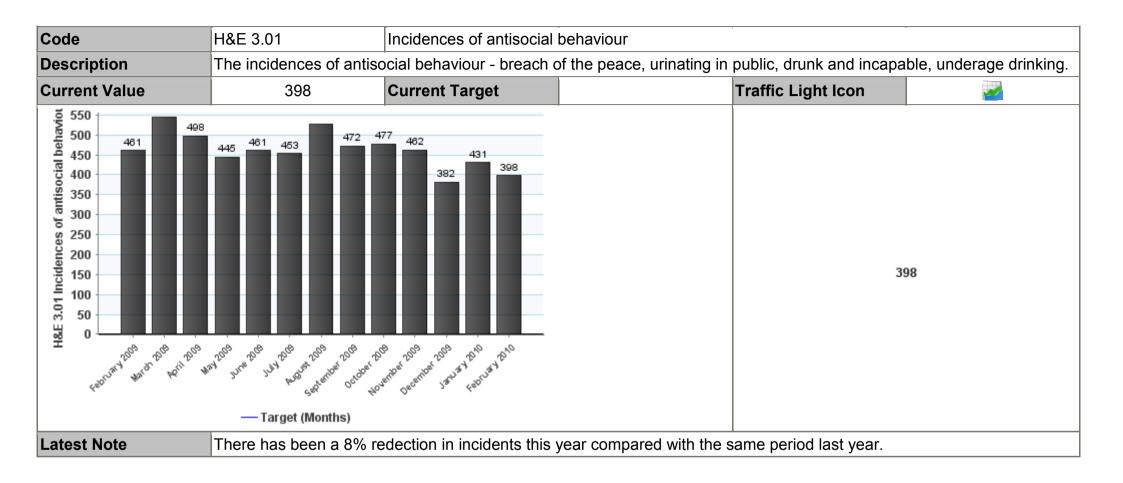


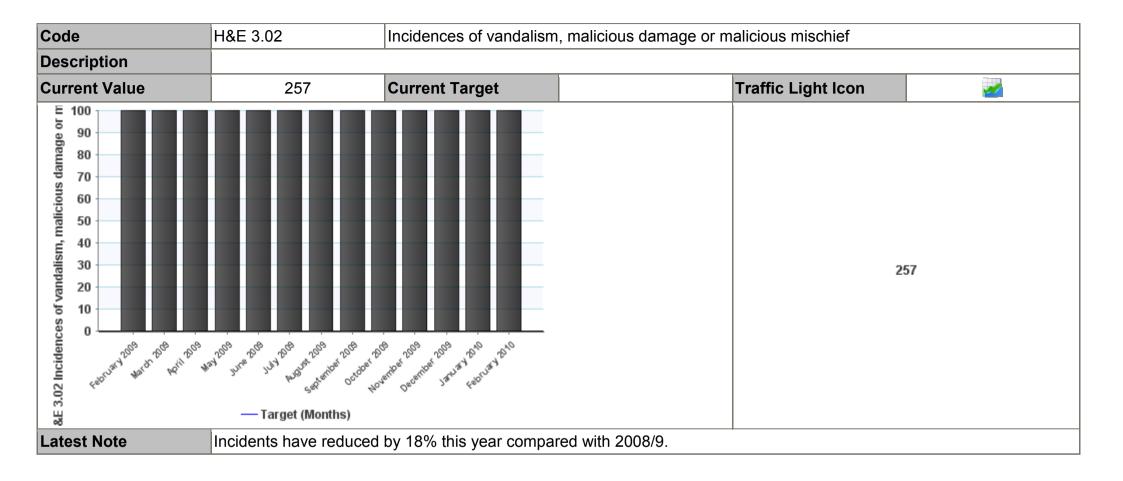
occasion. It is perhaps not surprising, therefore, that the great majority of these cases are sole applicants. The two exceptions are female single parents, each with a 3-year old child. It might be extrapolated from this that other applicants do re-present, but in different 'combinations', therefore not satisfying the SG condition. Just over 75 per cent of the cases involve male applicants, and while 12 of the applicants fall within the under-26 age bracket that we have designated as vulnerable for the purposes of determining priority need, the cases span the age range from 18 to 58. Having said that, while seven of them have applied to the Council for housing only twice, others have applied up to a dozen times, over a period of more than ten years (indeed, two of the 'cases' analysed are actually separate applications by the same individual), so it is likely that others were in the under-26 group when their 'journey' commenced. In the majority of cases applications were closed because the applicant failed to maintain contact. Several of the applicants have previously been housed, however (in a minority of cases more than once). The tenancies were generally sustained for a period of years rather than months, although at least six ended with substantial rent arrears (a factor which cannot be taken into account in considering statutory homeless applicants for housing). The amounts of these arrears range from just under £250 to just under £1100. None of the applicants who accrued the arrears appear to have been subsequently rehoused, although one is currently live on the homelessness waiting list.

Action: We have started a review of households that have been waiting long periods to be housed and we have agreed to look at cases of complex needs which would include this group. (Paul Hannan)









Code	H&E 3.07	Crime and antisocial behaviour incident reports made by City Wardens				
Description					_	
Current Value	173	Current Target		Traffic Light Icon		
216 192 144 120 144 120 144 120 144 120 144 120 144 120 144 120 144 120 144 120 144 120 144 120 144 120 192 144 120 192 144 120 193 144 120 193 144 120 194 195 144 195 196 197 197 198 198 198 198 198 198 198 198		202 173 148 130 148 130 148 130 148 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 10			173	
Latest Note	Latest Note City wardens have made 1,514 professional witness reports of crime and antisocial behaviour to community safety partners including Grampian Police, Grampian Fire and Rescue Service and Council housing services. Patrols are targeted at antisocial behaviour and crime hot spots through daily briefing and tasking report from Grampian Police and the community safety partnership's 6 weekly tactical assessment.					

