

SCRUTINY COMMISSION 7TH NOVEMBER – 2007
JOINT REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RESOURCES
COMBINED PERFORMANCE QUARTER 2 2007 - 2008

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to highlight for members, at this the half year point, issues on both the revenue budget and key performance indicators where performance is below target.

Background

2. This report seeks to combine the monitoring of the revenue budget with key performance indicators. This approach will be further developed and refined over the coming months and the intention is to provide members with quarterly budget monitoring and performance reports.

Performance Update

3. This report sets out the current progress, forecast and risks against:
 - Annual Plan/ High Priority Medium Term Corporate Strategy Commitments/Targets
 - Annual Plan Performance Indicator targets
 - Local Area Agreement Targets
 - Medium Term Financial Strategy

and highlights areas of concern which may require further action between now and the end of the financial year.

4. Four Appendices are attached to this report:

Appendix 1 shows the commitments included in the Annual Plan commitments and MTCS commitments for each department (excluding those which are monitored through the LAA).

Appendix 2 contains a forecast Annual Plan Performance Indicator Dashboard which illustrates the current forecast position against targets for the year end within the Annual Plan.

Appendix 3 contains the latest position and risk statement for the Local Area Agreement.

Appendix 4 sets out the position on the Revenue Budget at period 5.

Annual Plan Commitments and High Priority MTCS Targets- Appendix 1

5. The commitments in the appendices are arranged by department setting out the corporate objective to which the target relates, identifies the current perceived risk and includes an explanatory commentary. The risk rating used is the same as that in the Local Area Agreement to achieve a consistency of approach.

6. Responsible officers have been asked to identify if a target or commitment is:

Green On trajectory and within acceptable tolerances

Amber Off trajectory and outside acceptable tolerances but with prospects for recovery with remedial action

Red Off trajectory and so far from acceptable tolerances, there is little prospect that remedial activity will get indicator trajectory back on target

The responses and risk ratings have been reviewed and signed off by Departmental Management Teams and the Corporate Management Team.

7. The summary overview of Annual Plan Commitments is as follows:

Green 67(70.5%) **Amber** 25 (23.75%) **Red** 3 (2.85%)

For High Priority Medium Term Corporate Strategy (MTCS) Targets
(Excluding targets which also form part of the LAA)

Green 32 (82%) **Amber** 6 (15.4%) **Red** 1 (2.6%)

8. Details of those commitments and targets in Annual Plan and MTCS marked as 'Red risk' are set out in the table below together with a comment on progress.

Annual Plan Commitment	Responsible Officer	Red/Amber/Green?	Comments on Progress
Work with the Leicestershire Rural Partnership to formalise funding arrangements for the delivery of LTP accessibility strategy. Implement strategy throughout the course of the year. (PT SP2a)	Tony Kirk	Red	Not on track but made significant progress in last quarter. Accessibility forum structure has been set up and meetings will start in October.
Aim to reach Level Three of the Equalities Standard by December 2007.	Barry Davies	Red	The processes of equality impact assessment and setting of objectives and targets across the 6 equality themes needs to be further developed across all departments. The current assessment is that the Council will need a further 12 months to reach Level Three of the Equalities Standard. In November the Equalities Board will be considering a plan setting out the actions needed to achieve this.

Our Access Centres programme, which offers a range of public services to communities across the county, will create a further six centres with a focus on adult learning and improving employment opportunities.	Andy Robinson	Red	EMDA/ LSEP not supporting programme, focus on individual Access Centres (some of which may be LCC) instead	
MTCS HIGH PRIORITIES	WE WILL ACHIEVE	Responsible Officer	Red/Amber/Green?	Comments On Progress
Improve public access to Council services including a new Customer Service Centre (CSC)	Top quartile public satisfaction with the Council.	Brian Roberts	Red	The Council's performance was in the bottom quartile, based on the MORI survey. An Action Plan has been developed which will address specific issues.

Annual Plan- Performance Indicator Dashboard Forecast year end 2007/08 - Appendix 2

9. This summer a new “dashboard” approach to presenting performance information for the Annual Plan was adopted for the first time and was well received. The dashboard has been updated to show, based on the best information available at this moment in time, how the year end position against targets is likely to appear. The dashboard has been developed from forecast data which has been provided by departments; all forecasts have been considered and signed off by DMTS/Chief Officers.
10. Those indicators which are likely to under perform by more than 10% are shown with a dark red dot, those forecast to under perform by a smaller margin by an amber dot. Where a target is likely to be met or exceeded, a green tick is shown, two ticks where performance is likely to exceed target by more than 10%. Commentary has been requested for likely under performance and where performance is forecast to target by more than 10%.

Local Area Agreement Performance Appendix 3

11. Appendix 3 lists the LAA indicators by theme and the risk rating as of the end of September. The risks assessments work on a similar principle to the framework highlighted above based on the reporting of a quarterly actual figure and the likelihood of achieving the next end of year target milestone. There are currently 134 indicators in operation and a summary overview is as follows:

Green 90 (67%) **Amber** 15(11%) **Red** 15 (11%)

12. There are 14 (10%) indicators for which reporting has not yet been possible in the first 18months of the LAA. It is highly likely that a number of these would be removed were there to be a refresh process as the practicalities of collecting has proved so difficult and other indicators would be more appropriate. The remainder will be picked up within the development of a new LAA responding to the new National Indicator Set. There are a further 23 indicators that were introduced this year largely at the behest of the Government. The detailed measurements of these are still being developed.

13. A list of traffic light ratings for all LAA indicators is attached with a more detailed table on the Red Risks. Performance on LAA indicators will be reviewed at the Strategic Senior Officer Group on 31st March and as per usual arrangements LAA theme oversight partnerships will be leading improvement activity in relation to red and amber risks.

Revenue Budget – Monitoring

14. The latest budget monitoring position is set out in the attached Briefing Paper to (Appendix 4), based on the pattern of income and expenditure for the first five months of this financial year. The exercise indicates a forecast net underspend of around £3.1m (1.0%), the majority of which relates to Bank and Other Interest, Financing of Capital and Waste Management.

15. Most Departments' budgets show 'green' traffic lights, with 'amber' lights against Children and Young People and Highways and Transport. There do not appear to be any significant implications on performance targets at this stage.

Equal Opportunities Implications

16. There are specific performance measures within the reporting schedules which relate to equal opportunities.

Recommendations

17. Members are asked to note the position shown in the attached schedules and consider whether any further information or action is required.

Background Papers

Performance Data set out in the appendices to this report

Officers to Contact :

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