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SCRUTINY COMMISSION - 1ST SEPTEMBER 2009

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COUNTY COUNCIL FINAL END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR 2008/2009

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to present Scrutiny Commission with the contents of the Annual Performance Report for 2008/09 covering the final Comprehensive Performance Assessment position, Medium Term Corporate Strategy and partnership Local Area Agreement 1 (LAA) performance and LAA2 progress, along with relevant new National Performance Indicators.

Background

2. The Performance Report looks back on 2008/09 during which there has been a major change in the arrangements for reporting on local authority and local area performance. In particular the introduction of the new National Indicator Set of performance measures, containing a range of new cross-cutting and often cross-agency measures and the introduction of a new Local Area Agreement and targets, some of which were refreshed in February 2009.
3. The year has also seen the abolition of the old local authority service-based Best Value Performance Indicators, with Councils expected to determine for themselves what other indicators to collect and report on locally. As a result the Council has reviewed its local indicators and is introducing a range of new measures such as on environmental performance reporting and equalities.
4. The changes also mean that for this year it is often not possible to report year on year progress against previous figures. In addition for a number of indicators no targets have yet been set as performance is still being benchmarked. The new and more complex indicator set also mean that for this first year it is taking longer to collate the comparative performance information from other counties. The Performance report will be circulated to members in the next few days. This also means that only limited comparator information will be contained in the Performance Report. A short presentation will be made to the Commission to explain the latest position and performance information that is available.
5. The new National Indicator Set also covers the performance of a variety of agencies and different time periods. The Council is co-ordinating this locally on behalf of Leicestershire Together and publishing details each quarter through the TEN Performance System which can be accessed at the Leicestershire Together website

([http://www.leicestershiretogether.org/.](http://www.leicestershiretogether.org/)) The national Data Interchange Hub also publishes national data containing comparative performance for Leicestershire and other areas. The Performance Report therefore contains a selection of the key indicators related to Council priority areas and services.

6. In addition to the end of year NI and LAA performance, summary details have been included on the Council's CPA performance (considered by Cabinet and Scrutiny Commission in March/April). The final Report will be professionally formatted prior to publication.
7. A "dashboard" approach to presenting performance information for the Annual Report was adopted for the first time for 2006/2007 and has been used for subsequent reporting. Though it is currently not possible to include all previous elements due to lack of previous year data, targets and other authority comparators.

Arrangements to Secure Data Quality

8. Year end performance data and management commentary have been subject to a documented validation and signoff process. The management comments have been considered and signed off by DMTs for onward reporting, as outlined in the Council's data quality strategy. For these indicators a high degree of reliance can be placed upon the results.
9. There remain some corporate measures which are currently estimated and awaiting confirmation or are not yet available; these indicators are identified within the commentary. Data quality arrangements for the LAA mirror the corporate approach although at the time of writing sign-off had not been achieved for all indicators in all themes. The impact of any late sign-off activity will be reported at the meeting.

Timetable for Decisions

10. The Performance Report will be considered by the Cabinet on 8 September and full County Council on 23rd September.

Recommendations

11. The Commission are asked to:
 - a) note the end year 2008/09 performance position summarised in the Report and consider whether there are any areas of performance where further information or reports are required; and
 - b) agree any comments they would like to see submitted to the Cabinet on 8 September.

Resource Implications

12. None

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Relevant Impact Assessments

- **Crime and Disorder Implications**

The Performance Report highlights progress against key community safety indicators and includes a number of related National Indicators.

- **Environmental Implications**

The Performance Report includes progress against a number of environmental priority areas. The report further sets out how the Council is developing its environmental reporting within a new environmental management system.

- **Equalities Implications**

The Report sets out the progress of the Council against key equalities commitments and indicators. The report also includes the results of the Council against its own equalities indicators.

- **Partnership Working and Associated Issues**

The Report considers progress in relation to LAA1 reward targets and available information and performance in relation to LAA2 indicators both for the County Council and its partners. The Report also includes a number of cross cutting national indicators which can only be delivered through partners efforts. The Performance Report is therefore in effect also a performance report for the Leicestershire Together Partnership.

Background Papers

National Indicator Set Guidance and Definitions 2008/09;
Medium Term Corporate Strategy 2005-09;
Comprehensive Area Assessment Scorecard 2009
Annual Audit Report 2009

Appendices

Annual Performance Report (Appendix A) to follow