



SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 6 NOVEMBER 2013

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AND LEICESTERSHIRE TOGETHER ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2013

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the draft Annual Performance Report for 2013. The views of Scrutiny Commission are sought on the Annual Report prior to submission to the Cabinet and full County Council.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

2. The Annual Performance Report forms part of the County Council's Policy Framework. Quarterly reports on performance are submitted to the Scrutiny Commission and other Overview and Scrutiny committees. The information outlined in the year end performance report will help the County Council and its partners to improve services so they are of a high quality and give value for money by providing it with performance data on which it can make more informed decisions.

Background

3. It is best practice in performance management to undertake a wider review of overall progress on key performance areas at the end of the year and to benchmark performance against comparable authorities. The (local authority) sector led performance arrangements strongly suggest that a good quality annual performance report continue to be produced and that this is scrutinised, transparent and made publicly available.
4. The Annual Performance Report (**Appendix 1**) covers the performance of the County Council and Leicestershire Together Partnership over the last 12 months or so. It draws largely on 2012/13 comparative data.
5. The Report is in two parts – the first part is narrative describing delivery, progress on plans and achievements over the last 12 months. It largely focuses on performance against the priority outcomes of the County Council and its partners within the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and other main service strategies.
6. The second part contains hard comparative performance data showing current service and theme performance. Comparative data is sourced from

a range of acknowledged data sources including the LGA LG Inform national data system, Public Health and Adults Social Care Outcomes Frameworks data, OfSTED and DFE data sets and CIPFA. There is some comparative data still to be published - notably children's social care data.

7. The report is presented as a draft document, and will continue to be improved to incorporate points made by the Scrutiny Committees and Cabinet (November) prior to finalisation at full Council (December).
8. The final Annual Report will be properly formatted and published online via the County Council (<http://www.leics.gov.uk>) and Leicestershire Together (<http://www.leicestershiretogether.org>) websites. Discussions are underway with the Communications Unit on producing a shorter and more user friendly public version.
9. Overall analysis of the narrative shows strong examples of delivery across the theme areas. There are good plans and governance in place supporting delivery and improvement. Overall analysis of the available comparative performance data shows that Leicestershire continues to be a high performing county – provisional figures suggest we remain in the top two counties for aggregate performance. There has been improvement on 74 indicators (57%) out of the 131 reportable indicators this year – with around 33 (25%) showing similar performance levels and 24 (18%) showing lower levels of performance.
10. Leicestershire has a range of areas of top quartile performance including young people not in education, employment and training (NEETs); child protection plans; road accidents, maintenance and satisfaction; waste recycling and composting; many aspects of public health; many aspects of crime and reoffending; satisfaction with care and care safety; and library visits and issues and museum visits. Other areas of strong relative performance include low unemployment, child obesity, school place choices, teenage pregnancies and equality and diversity.
11. Particular areas of improved performance over the past year include the following:
 - **Economic** - The unemployment rate, which fell from 2.5% to 2% over the year to June 2013; skill levels; and the economic value of tourism which is now the second fastest growing industry in the county.
 - **Roads** - the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents, as well as total casualties, show year-on-year reductions over recent years. Carbon emissions related to transport have fallen.
 - **Health** - adults participating in sports for 30 minutes or more reached a new peak. Life expectancy has improved, and death rates from the main killers (cardiovascular disease and cancer) have reduced. The teenage pregnancy rate has shown a sustained reduction over recent years, including a significant fall over the past year.

- **Children's Social Care** - substantial improvements in the timeliness of assessments. For the first time in 3 years, 100% of child protection cases were reviewed within required timescales, marking a significant improvement. Regarding looked after children, key indicators for the stability of placements have all improved.
- **Schools** - The proportion of schools assessed as good or outstanding by OfSTED improved to 83% over the year – above the national average and an improvement of 9% from the previous academic year. Also, two of the most important educational attainment measures showed marked improvements: achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths; and the achievement of 'A' levels at A-C.
- **Adult Social Care** - overall satisfaction of people with their care and support improved from 58.4% to 67.9% over the past year. There have been significant improvements to the proportion of service users feeling that they have control over their daily life and the proportion of people who say that services have made them feel safe and secure. The percentage of people who receive self-directed support has also improved significantly.
- **Crime** - Most types of crime, including violent crime and acquisitive crime have reduced during 2012/13. In addition, the proportion of people stating that they have been a victim of antisocial behaviour reduced during the year.
- **Climate Change** - total CO2 emissions in the county area reduced, NOx emissions from County Council operations fell. There was also a reduction in business miles driven by the council workforce, less waste being produced from council sites and a greater percentage of waste from council sites being recycled.

12. A number of areas have seen a reduction in performance figures last year.

- **Adult Social Care** - Permanent admissions to residential care has largely been high performing in the past, but slipped last year to third quartile.
- **Libraries** – significant reductions in visitors and borrowing, although the 2012/13 results may well remain top quartile compared to other counties.
- **Youth Service** – whilst there have been reduced numbers supported, this is in the context of a more targeted service offer and development of the wider Early Help Service.
- **Waste** – generally a high performing area and still top quartile, although there was a slight reduction in performance figures last year.

- **First Time Youth Offending** – has been a high performing area, but numbers increased last year and the comparative position slipped to 4th quartile as other areas continued to reduce.

13. A number of areas requiring a continued delivery focus are highlighted below:-

- **Educational Attainment / Excellence** – Latest figures show that whilst many schools have good or outstanding OfSTED ratings, Leicestershire has some areas that remain below average. It is important that the Leicestershire Educational Excellence Partnership (LEEP) and children's champion role is now progressed with some vigour to put in place clear improvement targets and plans in conjunction with schools.
- **Public Health** – many aspects of local public health are good though data suggests that the following areas require a continued focus: breastfeeding prevalence, take up of NHS health checks, self reported anxiety, Chlamydia diagnosis, flu vaccination, preventable sight loss certifications and excess winter deaths.
- **Acute Health** - a range of areas have been flagged to the Health and Wellbeing Board related to acute health performance, and a variety of improvement plans and actions are in place.
- **Adult Social Care Personalisation** – continues to increase in number although comparative performance remains 3rd quartile and still short of the target.
- **Staff Sickness Absence** – had seen a positive progress in recent years but slipped back last year missing the target.

LG Inform Latest

14. The LG Inform system was launched to officers and members in August and will be launched to the public at the end of November. Residents will be able access any reports that have been flagged for public sharing. This includes basic reports on each of the metrics that data is held for in LG Inform, but could also include customised reports produced locally if these are made publicly accessible. In relation to Leicestershire, the LGA's standard headline report displays a selection of pre-chosen indicators for county councils. The report indicates that of 17 indicators, the County Council is rated top quartile for 8 indicators, second quartile for 5 indicators, third quartile for 1 indicator and bottom quartile for 3 indicators. Timeliness of data publication remains an issue.

Resource Implications

15. The report has no direct resource implications.

Timetable for Decisions

16. The Cabinet will be updated on the views of the Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on 20 November. The Annual Report is then scheduled for consideration by the County Council at its meeting on 4 December.

Background Papers

The Leicestershire Together Sustainable Community Strategy

Circulation under Local Issues Alert Procedure

None

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Appendices

Appendix 1- Draft Leicestershire County Council and Leicestershire Together Annual Performance Report 2013 (incorporating the full Report and Performance Data Dashboards).

Relevant Impact Assessments:**Equal Opportunities Implications**

17. The Annual Performance Report incorporates progress of the County Council against key equalities commitments and indicators.

Crime and Disorder Implications

18. The Performance Report highlights progress against key community safety priorities and targets. This year has seen good delivery on crime reduction.

Environmental Impact

19. The Performance Report includes progress against a number of environmental priority areas and reports progress against the Environment Strategy.

Partnership Working and associated issues

20. The Performance Report considers progress in relation to the Leicestershire Together Partnership's key priorities.