
Meeting: Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date: 18 January 2011
Subject: Quarter 2 Performance Report
Report of: Cllr Tom Nicols, Cllr David McVicar, Cllr Budge Wells, Cllr Ken Matthews
Summary: The report highlights the Quarter Two performance for Sustainable Communities

Advising Officer: Gary Alderson, Director of Sustainable Communities
Contact Officer: Calum Clements, Performance Improvement Manager
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The quarterly performance report underpins the delivery of the Council's priorities

Financial:

No Direct Implications

Legal:

No Direct Implications

Risk Management:

Areas of ongoing under performance are a risk to both service delivery and the reputation of the Council

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

No Direct Implications

Equalities/Human Rights:

This report highlights performance against performance indicators which seek to measure how the Council and its services impact across all communities within Central Bedfordshire, so that specific areas of underperformance can be highlighted for further analysis/drilling down as necessary.

As such it does not include detailed performance information relating to the Council's stated intention to tackle inequalities and deliver services so that people whose circumstances make them vulnerable are not disadvantaged. The interrogation of performance data across vulnerable groups is a legal requirement and is an integral part of the Council's equalities and performance culture which seeks to ensure that, through a programme of ongoing impact assessments, underlying patterns and trends for different sections of the community identify areas where further action is required to improve outcomes for vulnerable groups.

Community Safety:

No Direct Implications

Sustainability:

No Direct Implications

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- 1. That the committee notes and considers this report.**

Background

1. The Council's framework for performance management supports the delivery of the Council's priorities
2. Directors' Summaries for Quarter 2 are set out below. Appendix A provides the detailed performance data.
3. Three key themes were identified for the overarching performance position for Quarter 1. Broadly, these themes remain for Quarter 2.

Key theme (1): Impact of the economic climate

Key theme (2): Impact of management action

Key theme (3): Focussed use of resources

4. Outstanding performance continues regarding the percentage of Council housing stock that meets the 'decent' homes standard.
5. Corporately, the impact of continued focus on resources (including staffing) are beginning to show by, for example, improved sickness levels when compared with the same point in 2009/10 and slightly reduced numbers of staff employed and agency staff used. The information reported for overall staffing numbers reflects numbers actually employed rather than numbers on the establishment.

Director's Summary

6. Areas of Economic Growth continue to show a declining performance as the data has a significant time lag and is currently showing what occurred during the recession. Central Bedfordshire continues to perform above regional and national average for Economic Growth. The service continues to develop the aim to create an economic powerhouse in Central Bedfordshire.

7. Planning continue to perform well throughout all service areas. The satisfaction level with the Planning Services at CBC continues to improve year on year.
8. Highways and Transport data has shown improvement and with planned novation of the Highways Managing Agent Contract with AMEY there has been a reduction in the number of performance indicators from AMEY to achieve cost reductions, and data that is more relevant for Central Bedfordshire Council reporting purposes than previously. AMEY have spent the summer resurfacing or 'dressing' roads in preparation for winter. With the development of the Local Transport Plan a new suite of transport indicators will be developed to replace the current set.
9. The areas around Community Safety, Public Protection, Waste and Leisure have continued to perform consistently across the service.

Financial and other implications

10. None directly but there are issues relating to:
 - Council Tax collected
 - Amount of debt outstanding
 - Invoices paid within 30 days.

Conclusion and Next Steps

11. That Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes and considers this report.

Appendices:

Appendix A – (Quarter 2 Performance Indicators)

Background Papers: (open to public inspection)

Executive 7 December 2010 – (Quarter 2 Performance Report)

Location of papers: Priory House, Chicksands