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**Meeting:** Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
**Date:** 25 April 2013  
**Subject:** Quarter Three Performance Report  
**Report of:** Cllr Nigel Young , Executive Member for Sustainable Communities – Strategic Planning and Economic Development and  
Cllr Brian Spurr, Executive Member for Sustainable Communities – Services  
**Summary:** The report highlights the Quarter Three performance from Sustainable Communities.

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**Advising Officer:** Trevor Saunders, Assistant Director Planning and Development  
**Contact Officer:** Iain Melville, Acting Head of Service Development  
**Public/Exempt:** Public  
**Wards Affected:** All  
**Function of:** Council

## **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Council Priorities:**

1. The quarterly Medium Term Plan performance report underpins the delivery of all Council priorities.

### **Financial:**

2. The indicator set monitors a wide range of indicators, which help to provide an understanding of the Council's effective use of resources.

### **Legal:**

3. None.

### **Risk Management:**

4. Any areas of ongoing underperformance would be a risk to both service delivery and the reputation of the Council.

### **Staffing (including Trades Unions):**

5. None.

### **Equalities/Human Rights:**

6. This report highlights performance in respect of how the Council and its services impact across all communities within Central Bedfordshire, so the specific areas of underperformance can be highlighted for further analysis/drilling down as necessary.

**Public Health:**

7. Active recreation is included in the indicator set.

**Community Safety:**

8. The levels of Serious Acquisitive Crime and anti-social behaviour are included in the indicator set.

**Sustainability:**

9. Included in the indicator set are a broad range of indicators relating to sustainability including those covering employment, access to broadband, library usage, active recreation and waste.

**Procurement:**

10. None.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

**The Committee is asked to note and consider the report.**

**Background**

11. This report marks a change from previous corporate performance reports, as it now focuses on a set of indicators that support the monitoring of progress against the priorities in the Medium Term Plan (MTP).
12. The Director's Summary for Quarter 3 is set out below. Appendix A provides the detailed performance data.

**Director's Summary**

13. Amptill Library was the latest in a series of library refurbishments to take place. New self-service technology was installed, with changes to the layout and shelving and the creation of a read and relax area. A range of energy saving measures was also implemented to reduce bills and cut carbon emissions. Our aim is to build on the continuing increase in visitor numbers to our libraries with a MTP target of a 20% increase in visitors by 2016, whilst maintaining high levels of customer satisfaction.
14. Plans to deliver Superfast 'next generation' broadband to the area were approved by the Executive in December 2012. The MTP target is for all premises in the area to have access to a standard broadband speed of at least 2 mbps. A provider will be selected to deliver speeds of at least 24 mbps with more than 90% of all premises having access by 2015, as set out in the MTP. During Quarter 3 the Collaboration Agreement was signed between Central Bedfordshire, Bedford and Milton Keynes Councils. This was a BDUK (The Department of Culture, Media and Sport's broadband delivery project) requirement that allowed the councils to proceed through the first 'checkpoint' and move into the pre-procurement phase. This project also supports the Customer First Programme in enabling our customers to gain access to our services electronically and enhancing our economic competitiveness and investor attractiveness.

15. The latest results of the Sport England Active People Survey show that there has been an increase in Central Bedfordshire adults participating in sport and active recreation, at moderate intensity, for at least 30 minutes on at least 12 days out of the last 4 weeks (equivalent to 30 minutes on 3 or more days a week). Central Bedfordshire continues to meet its MTP target and has now moved from being 0.2% above the national average to 2.1% above.
16. To support this target in the MTP, the Council is developing CBC's first Leisure Strategy. The Executive endorsed Chapter 1: Leisure Facilities Strategy in January. This will be followed by Chapters on Recreation and Open Space; Playing Pitches; and Physical Activity. The overarching Leisure Strategy will go to Executive for approval in November 2013.
17. On 29 November 2012, Full Council gave unanimous endorsement for the draft Central Bedfordshire Development Strategy, which sets out how much new development, including homes, provision of jobs, and retail space we need to plan for up to 2031, where these should go and crucially, what infrastructure is needed to support it. The strategy brings together the emerging plans for major growth and new infrastructure, particularly around the Dunstable/Houghton Regis area, including developments like the A5-M1 link, the Woodside connection, the guided busway, development north of Houghton Regis and a new Rail Freight Interchange. The strategy is a key enabler of the MTP priorities of "Enhancing your local community" and "Better infrastructure".

### **Conclusion and Next Steps**

18. Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee notes and considers this report.

### **Appendices:**

Appendix A – (Quarter 3 Performance Indicators)

**Background papers and their location:** (open to public inspection)

Executive 19 March 2013