Meeting: Executive

Date: 18 March 2014

Subject: Quarter 3 Performance Report

Report of: Cllr Maurice Jones, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for

Corporate Resources

N/A

Summary: To report on Quarter 3 2013/14 performance for Central Bedfordshire

Council's Medium Term Plan indicator set.

Advising Officer: Deb Clarke, Director of Improvement and Corporate Services

Contact Officer: Elaine Malarky, Head of Programme & Performance

Management

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Executive

Key Decision No

Reason for urgency/ exemption from call-in

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

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

Financial:

1. None directly but the indicator set does monitor the percentage increase in Council Tax.

Legal:

2. None.

Risk Management:

3. Any areas of on-going underperformance would be a risk to both service delivery and the reputation of the Council.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

4. None

Equalities/Human Rights:

- 5. This report highlights performance against a range of indicators which measure how the Council is delivering against its Medium Term Plan priorities. It identifies specific areas of underperformance which can be highlighted for further analysis. Whilst many of the indicators deal with information important in assessing equality, it is reported at the headline level in this report.
- 6. To meet the Council's stated intention of tackling inequalities and delivering services so that people whose circumstances make them vulnerable are not disadvantaged, performance data for indicators in this set is supported by more detailed performance data analysis at the service level and this is used to support the completion of equality impact assessments. These impact assessments provide information on the underlying patterns and trends for different sections of the community and identify areas where further action is required to improve outcomes for vulnerable groups.

Public Health

7. The indicator set includes an indicator monitoring the percentage of 40 to 74 year olds offered a health check.

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. Not applicable

Overview and Scrutiny:

11. This report will be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny committees during their April 2014 cycle of meetings.

RECOMMENDATION: The Executive is asked to:

1. Acknowledge the continuing overall good performance in Quarter 3 for the indicators being used to help support monitoring of progress against the Medium Term Plan priorities and to recommend officers to further investigate and resolve underperforming indicators as appropriate.

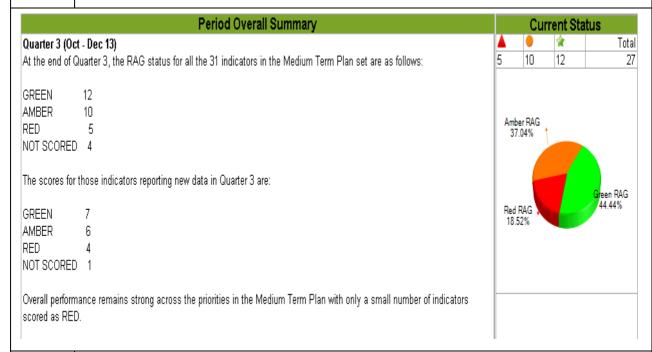
Reason for To ensure a rigorous approach to performance management across Central Bedfordshire Council.

Executive Summary

- 12. This report focuses on the indicators that support the monitoring of progress against the priorities in the Medium Term Plan.
- 13. The report comprises of the following sections:
 - Overall summary for the reporting period (Paragraph 14 to 18 below).
 - The Executive report scorecard (Pages 5 and 6)
 - This Quarter's Green performance (Page 7)
 - This Quarter's Amber performance (Page 8)
 - This Quarter's Red performance (Page 9)
 - Directorate summaries (Pages 10 to 15)

Overall Summary

There are currently 31 indicators in the Medium Term Plan indicator set. This report shows the latest data for all these indicators, even if new data is not being reported in this Quarter, so that a complete picture of overall performance can be shown. The indicators which are not scored are those where targets have not been set in the current year.



The number of indicators being reported this quarter has temporarily increased by two to reflect the change in practice from a two stage assessment process in Children's Social Care to a single stage process following the Munro Review of Safeguarding. The original indicators C8 MTP and C9 MTP are included this quarter for continuity, and the new replacement indicators are C8a MTP and C9a MTP.

Overall performance remains good across the Medium Term Plan (MTP) priorities with twelve indicators scored as Green of which seven are reporting new data this Quarter.

These indicators include:

- the percentage of schools classed as 'Good' or 'Outstanding' at 84% (B4 MTP),
- the number of Health Checks offered at 5,129 in Quarter 3 (C7 MTP);
 and
- the percentage of child protection cases due to be reviewed during the year that were reviewed, where performance remains at 100% (C10 MTP).

(Details of the indicators scored as Green can be seen on page 7 of this report).

17. In this Quarter there are ten indicators scored as Amber with six reporting new data.

Within the Ambers, is the latest Active People Survey data, which despite showing a small rise in the percentage of adults participating in sport or active recreation has seen our comparative performance fall from being 1.1% above to 1.2% below the National Average.

(Details of the indicators scored as Amber can be seen on page 8 of this report).

18. In this Quarter there are five indicators scored as Red, with four reporting new data.

The five indicators include:

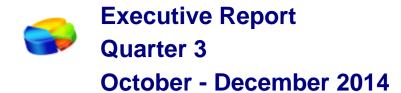
- previously reported annual data in relation to library visits data which will be updated when the latest count is reported in Quarter 4;
- the measure of the number of social care clients receiving self-directed support which as previously reported has a particularly challenging target in the MTP;
- and one of the new Children's social care measures following the introduction of the single stage assessment process (C8a MTP); and
- the annual measure monitoring the proportion of pupils achieving 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent in English and Maths. Here despite a small rise in the percentage to 57.7%, Central Bedfordshire ranking against other English authorities fell by 22 places.

(Details of the indicators scored as Red can be seen on page 9 of this report).

Appendices: None

Background Papers: Individual indicator information.

Location of papers: Programme and Performance Team, Priory House.





	■ improving			
Enhance your local commun				
	Performance will be reported	Latest Data	Performance Judgement	Current Status
A1 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire residents satisfied with the local area as a place to	live Resident's Surve	y Sep 13		n/a
A2 MTP Number of people in employment aged (16 to 64) (% above national average)	Quarterly	Dec 13	1	•
A3 MTP % of approved residential developments achieving CABE excellent status	Quarterly	Dec 13	- <u>-</u>	*
A4 MTP Number of Serious Acquisitive Crimes (Rate for 1,000)	Quarterly	Dec 13	-	•
A5 MTP Number of recorded anti-social behaviour incidents	Quarterly	Dec 13	1	n/a
Improved educational attainm	ent			
	Performance will be reported	Latest Data	Performance Judgement	Current Status
B1 MTP Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English & Mathematical Tranking	Yr)	Dec 13	+	A
B2 MTP Percentage of Young People who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	Y r)	Dec 12	n/a	•
B3 MTP Number of education and training opportunities made available in the Autumn.	Annual (School Yr)	Dec 12	_	*
B4 MTP Published Ofsted School & College classifications (% good/outstanding)	Quarterly	Dec 13	^	*
Promote health and wellbeing and protect	the vulnerable			
<u>*</u>	Performance will be reported	Latest Data	Performance Judgement	Current Status
C1 MTP Protecting Vulnerable Adults	Quarterly	Dec 13	→	*
C10 MTP % child protection cases due to be reviewed during that year were reviewed	Quarterly	Dec 13	→	*
C11 MTP Average time in days between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive fa	mily Quarterly	Dec 13	+	*
C2 MTP Additional 'Extra Care' flats provided	Quarterly	Dec 13	→	A
C3 MTP Percentage of decent homes (Council stock)	Monthly	Dec 13	+	•
C4a MTP Village Care Scheme % Coverage	Quarterly	Dec 13	→	•
C5a MTP Percentage of council commissioned dementia classed as 'good' or 'excellent'	Quarterly	Dec 13		*
C6 MTP % clients receiving self directed support	Quarterly	Dec 13		<u> </u>
C7 MTP Percentage of 40 to 74 year olds offered a health check	Quarterly	Dec 13		*
C8 MTP Percentage of referrals of children in need that led to initial assessment	Quarterly	Sep 13	4	*
C8a MTP % of referrals of children leading to the provision of a social care service (Cumulative)	Quarterly	Dec 13	New	A
C9 MTP % of initial assessments undertaken within 10 working days of referral (Children's)	Quarterly	Sep 13	•	0
C9a MTP % of children's social care assessments within 45 working days of start (Cumulative)	Quarterly	Dec 13	New	0

	Better infrastructure				
		Performance will be reported	Latest Data	Performance Judgement	Current Status
<u></u>	D1a MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with road maintenance	Resident's Survey	Sep 13	•	0
<u></u>	D1b MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with pavement maintenance	Resident's Survey	Sep 13	+	•
<u></u>	D2 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire with access to superfast broadband	Annual (March)	Mar 13	•	n/a
<u></u>	D3 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire with access to at least 2Mb broadband	Annual (March)	Mar 13	^	n/a
	Great universal services				
		Performance will be reported	Latest Data	Performance Judgement	Current Status
<u></u>	E1 MTP % of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting (cumulative)	Quarterly	Jun 13	-	*
<u></u>	E2 MTP Percentage of adults in Central Bedfordshire taking part in sport or active recreation	Bi-Annual	Dec 13	1	0
<u></u>	E3 MTP Percentage Satisfaction of adults with library services	Annual (March)	Mar 13	1	*
<u></u>	E4 MTP Number of visits to libraries	Annual (March)	Mar 13	+	A
	Value for money				
		Performance will be reported	Latest Data	Performance Judgement	Current Status
	F1 MTP Percentage increase in Council Tax	Annual (March)	Mar 13	→	*

Green Performance				
Indicator	Latest data	Target	Actual	Current
Indicator	Laiesi uaia	(Period)	(Period)	Status
A3 MTP % of approved residential developments achieving CABE excellent status	Dec 13	100	100	*
B3 MTP Number of education and training opportunities made available in the Autumn.	Dec 12	5,169	5,169	*
B4 MTP Published Ofsted School & College classifications (% good/outstanding)	Dec 13	75	84	*
C1 MTP Protecting Vulnerable Adults	Dec 13	n/a	Green	*
C10 MTP % child protection cases due to be reviewed during that year were reviewed	Dec 13	100.0	100.0	*
C11 MTP Average time in days between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family	Dec 13	562	548	*
C5a MTP Percentage of council commissioned dementia classed as 'good' or 'excellent'	Dec 13	60.00	61.20	*
C7 MTP Percentage of 40 to 74 year olds offered a health check	Dec 13	100.00	128.32	*
C8 MTP Percentage of referrals of children in need that led to initial assessment	Sep 13	75.0	77.6	*
E1 MTP % of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting (cumulative)	Jun 13	51.00	52.40	*
E3 MTP Percentage Satisfaction of adults with library services	Mar 13	93	95	*
F1 MTP Percentage increase in Council Tax	Mar 13	0.00	0.00	*

Overall Period Summary - Green

Quarter 3 (Oct - Dec 13)

A3 MTP Performance in relation to the percentage of approved residential developments of ten or more units meeting the CABE excellent design status remains at 100%.

B3 MTP The Green score is for 2012/13. This is an annual measure and the 2013/14 figure will be reported in Quarter 4.

B4 MTP The overall proportion of schools classified as 'Good' or 'Outstanding' remains stable at 84% in Quarter 3.

C1 MTP Our work in protecting vulnerable adults continues to be scored as Green.

C5a MTP 61% of dementia care providers are rated as Good or Excellent.

C7 MTP The number of Health Checks offered continues to exceed targets, with 5,129 offered in Quarter 3.

C8 MTP shows last Quarter's data as this indicator has now been replaced by C8a MTP as following the Munro Review of safeguarding we have moved to a single assessment process.

C10 MTP The percentage of child protection cases due to be reviewed during the year that were reviewed remains at 100%.

C11 MTP Following a review to the national thresholds published by Department for Education for the average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family, our targets have been updated and we remain on target.

E1 MTP The figure for the percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting has not been updated since last quarter and still shows the Quarter 1 figure.

E3 MTP Is the annual measure of adult satisfaction with the library service and shows last year's outturn. The 2013/14 figure will be available in Quarter 4.

F1 MTP Is the annual measure for the percentage increase in Council Tax. This is reported in Quarter 4 and currently shows the figure for last year.

Amber Performance				
Indicator	Latest data	Target (Period)	Actual (Period)	Current Status
A2 MTP Number of people in employment aged (16 to 64) (% above national average)	Dec 13	5.00	4.50) 🧶
A4 MTP Number of Serious Acquisitive Crimes (Rate for 1,000)	Dec 13	3.0	3.1	. •
B2 MTP Percentage of Young People who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	Dec 12	38.00	40.00) 🔴
C3 MTP Percentage of decent homes (Council stock)	Dec 13	100.0	99.7	, <u> </u>
C4a MTP Village Care Scheme % Coverage	Dec 13	90.30	87.10) 🧶
C9 MTP % of initial assessments undertaken within 10 working days of referral (Children's)	Sep 13	85.0	80.5	5 🔵
C9a MTP % of children's social care assessments within 45 working days of start (Cumulative)	Dec 13	90.0	80.7	⁷
D1a MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with road maintenance	Sep 13	36.0	33.0) 🔴
D1b MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with pavement maintenance	Sep 13	50.00	45.00) 🧶
E2 MTP Percentage of adults in Central Bedfordshire taking part in sport or active recreation	Dec 13	24.8	23.6	j

Overall Period Summary - Amber

Quarter 3 (Oct - Dec 13)

A2 MTP The percentage of people in employment increased again in Quarter 3 and at 4.5% above the national average rate, we are getting closer to meeting our target of being 5% above the national average.

A4 MTP The number of serious acquisitive crimes increased in Quarter 3.

B2MTP Measures the percentage of young people who are not in education, employment or training using an average for the figures for November, December and January and is reported in Quarter 4. It currently shows last years performance.

C3 MTP The percentage of decent homes fell slightly in Quarter 3 to 99.7%.

C4a MTP The percentage of Central Bedfordshire covered by Village Care schemes remained at 87.1% in Quarter 3.

C9 MTP is an old Children's social care measure that has been replaced by C9a MTP following the move to a single assessment system.

C9a MTP is a new indicator measuring the percentage of children's social care assessments undertaken within 45 working days of start. Current performance is at 80.7% against a target of 90%.

D1a MTP measures the percentage resident satisfaction with road maintenance. This data was reported in Quarter 2. The next set of data will be available in Quarter 1. **D1b MTP** measures the percentage resident satisfaction with pavement maintenance. This data was reported in Quarter 2. The next set of data will be available in Quarter 1.

E2 MTP The latest Active People Survey published in December 2013 shows that the percentage of adults in Central Bedfordshire taking part in sport or active recreation increased slightly to 23.6%. However our comparative performance has reduced from 1.1% above to 1.2% below the national average.

Red Perform	nance			
Indicator	Latest	Target	Actual	Current
Indicator	data	(Period)	(Period)	Status
B1 MTP Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including Engli	sh & Maths -ranking Dec 13	50.00	113.00	
C2 MTP Additional 'Extra Care' flats provided	Dec 13	n/a	Red	_
C6 MTP % clients receiving self directed support	Dec 13	100.0	75.3	A
C8a MTP % of referrals of children leading to the provision of a social care service (Cu	mulative) Dec 13	75.0	49.4	A
E4 MTP Number of visits to libraries	Mar 13	1,331,091	988,893	A

Overall Period Summary - Red

Quarter 3 (Oct - Dec 13)

B1 MTP The percentage of pupils achieving 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths increased to 57.7% in 2013 but Central Bedfordshire's ranking against other English authorities fell to 113 out of 151. To be scored as Green we need to be ranked 50th or above.

C2 MTP which measures the number of additional 'Extra Care' flats provided remains scored as Red. The building contract for Priory View the new name for the Dukeminster scheme was awarded in December 2013.

C6 MTP The number of social care clients receiving self directed support remains red against the local stretch target of 100%. This indicator however continues to perform well against the national target of 70%.

C8a MTP This is a new indicator measuring the percentage of referrals of children leading to the provision of a social care service. It replaces C8 MTP following the adoption of the new single assessment system. Performance currently stands at 49.4% against a target of 75%.

E4 MTP Measures the number of visitis to libraries and is an annual measure. This data was reported in Quarter 4 2012/13. New data will be reported in Quarter 4 2013/14.

Social Care, Health & Housing				
Promote health and wellbeing and protect the vulnerable	Performance will be reported	Latest Data	Direction of Travel	Current Status
C1 MTP Protecting Vulnerable Adults	Quarterly	Data Dec 13		Status
C2 MTP Additional 'Extra Care' flats provided	Quarterly	Dec 13	→	A
C4a MTP Village Care Scheme % Coverage	Quarterly	Dec 13	→	•
C5a MTP Percentage of council commissioned dementia classed as 'good' or 'excellent'	Quarterly	Dec 13	→	*
C6 MTP % clients receiving self directed support	Quarterly	Dec 13	+	
C3 MTP Percentage of decent homes (Council stock)	Monthly	Dec 13	+	0

The Directorate continues to perform well against the Medium Term Plan priority of "Promote health and wellbeing and protecting the vulnerable".

The proportion of people receiving self-directed support continues to increase overall. Performance against the national target is good and remains strong in comparison to neighbouring authorities and the Eastern Region. There is a continuing focus to achieve the local aspirational target of 100%.

The build contract for Priory View, formerly Dukeminster, was awarded in November 2013, with a start on site in early 2014.

The target for the Village Care Scheme was missed in December due to a delay in the "go live" date for the Sandy Scheme in December 2013. A revised launch date for March 2014 has been set. Development of the Leighton Buzzard Scheme is continuing and we remain on course to achieve the 100% ward coverage MTP target.

Progress has been maintained in the other targets.

Public Health				
Promote health and wellbeing and protect the vulnerable	Performance will	Latest	Direction of	Current
Tromoto floatiff and wellboling and protoot the valiforable	be reported	Data	Travel	Status
C7 MTP Percentage of 40 to 74 year olds offered a health check	Quarterly	Dec 13	1	*

The number of Health Checks offered again exceeded target in Quarter 3, and work continues to maximise their uptake. Now that the local Programme is well established there is an increased focus on looking at the difference that Health Checks can make to those patients who are identified as being at risk, and making sure that Health Checks are effective in supporting local people to live longer, healthier lives.

In the first 6 months of the 2013-14, Health Checks resulted in 81 newly diagnosed case of hypertension. They were also responsible for diagnosing type 2 diabetes in 22 Central Bedfordshire residents who did not know that they were suffering from this serious condition. In cases like these, Health Checks provide the opportunity for pharmacological intervention; during this period 132 people who had Health Checks were identified as needing to be prescribed statins for the first time.

But not everyone needs this type of help; patients who are identified to be at risk of poor cardio vascular health can often benefit from improvements in their lifestyle, before there is the need to prescribe medicines. Providing access to effective prevention and early intervention has been proven to reduce the need for expensive drugs required to treat health condition, before it becomes established.

Between April and September 2013, 111 Central Bedfordshire residents who had a Health Check were referred to the Stop Smoking Service, and 139 were referred to a weight management programme.

Children's Services				
Improved educational attainment	Performance will be reported	Latest Data	Direction of Travel	Current Status
B1 MTP Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English & Maths - ranking	Annual (School Yr)	Dec 13	+	_
B2 MTP Percentage of Young People who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	Annual (School Yr)	Dec 12	n/a	0
B3 MTP Number of education and training opportunities made available in the Autumn.	Annual (School Yr)	Dec 12	n/a	*
B4 MTP Published Ofsted School & College classifications (% good/outstanding)	Quarterly	Dec 13	1	*
Promote health and wellbeing and protect the vulnerable				
C8 MTP Percentage of referrals of children in need that led to initial assessment	Quarterly	Sep 13	+	*
C8a MTP % of referrals of children leading to the provision of a social care service (Cumulative)	Quarterly	Dec 13	New	A
C9 MTP % of initial assessments undertaken within 10 working days of referral (Children's)	Quarterly	Sep 13	+	0
C9a MTP % of children's social care assessments within 45 working days of start (Cumulative)	Quarterly	Dec 13	New	0
C10 MTP % child protection cases due to be reviewed during that year were reviewed	Quarterly	Dec 13	+	*
C11 MTP Average time in days between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family	Quarterly	Dec 13	+	*

Final results show that 57.7% of young people achieved 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths. This is an increase compared to last year although our relative position compared to other English local authorities declined to rank 113 of 151. Evidence from student progress data demonstrates that long term interventions will have a positive impact on improved outcomes in 2014.

Overall the proportion of schools being classified as good or outstanding has remained stable over the last three years. In Quarter 3 published inspection outcomes show that 84% of schools and colleges are either 'Good' or 'Outstanding'.

Following the publication of the Munro Review of Safeguarding and Working Together statutory guidance we have implemented a single assessment process, which replaces the previous system of initial and core assessments. This has resulted in two new indicators that align with expectations published by the Department for Education in the Safeguarding Performance Information Framework. Our performance in relation to completing assessments in 45 days is good and as the new system is embedded the ambitious targets around the percentage of referrals are expected to be met. The new process will be well established before 2014/15.

Child protection reviews within timescales continue to achieve the 100% target. Although timescales for adoptions have dipped this quarter as longer term cases come through the system, with more adoptions planned in Quarter 4 we are on track to meet target by the year end.

Community Services				
Enhance your local community	Performance will be reported	Latest Data	Direction of Travel	Current Status
A1 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire residents satisfied with the local area as a place to live	Resident's Survey	Sep 13	•	n/a
A5 MTP Number of recorded anti-social behaviour incidents	Quarterly	Dec 13	•	n/a
	Seasonal			
A4 MTP Number of Serious Acquisitive Crimes (Rate for 1,000)	Quarterly	Dec 13	4	0
Better infrastructure				
D1a MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with road maintenance	Resident's Survey	Sep 13	1	0
D1b MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with pavement maintenance	Resident's Survey	Sep 13	4	0
Great universal services	Seasonal			
E1 MTP % of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting (cumulative)	Quarterly	Jun 13	T	*
E2 MTP Percentage of adults in Central Bedfordshire taking part in sport or active recreation	Bi-Annual	Dec 13	1	0
E3 MTP Percentage Satisfaction of adults with library services	Annual (March)	Mar 13	1	*
E4 MTP Number of visits to libraries	Annual (March)	Mar 13	4	A

Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC) which includes domestic burglary, robbery, theft of motor vehicle and theft from a motor vehicle continues to be a serious concern as the Quarter 3 rate of 3.1 crimes per 1,000 population is higher than the same quarter in both 2011/12 and 2012/13 and represents an upward trend. The crimes which are increasing are domestic burglaries and theft of motor vehicles.

In response specific police operations are being undertaken to target these issues and these are being supported by the Community Safety Partnership through joint communications about securing property etc. Domestic burglary has been identified as one of the CSP's priorities in its annual strategic assessment and it will continue to focus partnership resources on this area.

Recorded Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) has shown the expected seasonal decline from Quarter 2 but has declined in real terms from the equivalent quarter in 2012/13. 2013/14 Quarter 3 results are at their lowest for 21 months but the CSP has identified reducing the number of victims of ASB as a priority in its strategic assessment for 2013/14 with resources being prioritised to protect vulnerable victims.

The percentage of adults taking part in sport or active recreation in Central Bedfordshire has increased in the latest Active People Survey (APS) carried out by Sport England to 23.6%. However, this is a slower rate of increase than the average rate seen across all English Authorities and Central Bedfordshire has fallen below the average performance of 24.8%.

Our Leisure Strategy is a long term plan to improve performance with significant capital being invested to improve our own facilities and our recently awarded leisure contract has a greater focus on increasing participation for all abilities. We have also made bids for Sport England funds aimed at increasing participation from groups which are known to be underrepresented including people with disabilities and the 14 - 18 age group.

Regeneration				
Enhance your local community	Performance will be reported	Latest Data	Direction of Travel	Current Status
A2 MTP Number of people in employment aged (16 to 64) (% above national average)	Quarterly	Dec 13	1	0
A3 MTP % of approved residential developments achieving CABE excellent status	Quarterly	Dec 13	→	*
Better infrastructure				
D2 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire with access to superfast broadband	Annual (March)	Mar 13	1	n/a
D3 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire with access to at least 2Mb broadband	Annual (March)	Mar 13	•	n/a

Latest data from the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) 2012 tells us that there were 85,800 jobs in Central Bedfordshire in 2012. This represents a 2.2% increase on 2011 and 1,800 additional jobs (based on updated estimates for 2011, taken from BRES in November 2013). The picture in Central Bedfordshire is more positive than in comparator areas over the same period. England and the East of England saw a 0.7% increase in jobs, whereas job numbers in SEMLEP fell by 0.7%.

This is reflected in the overall employment rate where Central Bedfordshire continues to perform above national averages for number of working age residents in employment. Quarter 3 showed an increase of 1,300 working age people in employment. This equates to an employment rate of 75.8% which is an increase from the previous quarter (74.8%) and is still above England (71.3%). This means we are 4.5% above the national employment rate. The gap is narrowing towards meeting our MTP target of 5% above the national employment rate. In Quarter 3 we are marginally above the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership area (SEMLEP) (75.1%) having been marginally below in Quarter 2.

Additionally, the level of key out of work benefit claimants fell by 580 people, in terms of number of claimants between February and May 2013 to 11,660 people or 7.0%. The rate is the lowest it has been since November 2008.

Fin	nce
Value for manay	Performance will Latest Direction of Current
Value for money	be reported Data Travel Status
F1 MTP Percentage increase in Council Tax	Annual (March) Mar 13

F1 MTP is the measure monitoring the percentage increase in Council Tax. This is reported annually in Quarter 4 so is not reported this quarter.