
Meeting: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 22 January 2015
Subject: Quarter 2 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 2 performance from Community Services and Regeneration and Business

Advising Officer: Marcel Coffait, Director of Community Services
Jason Longhurst, Director of Regeneration and Business
Contact Officer: Heather Price – Head of Business Performance
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The quarterly Medium Term Plan performance report underpins the delivery of all Council priorities. |
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Financial:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. The indicator set monitors a wide range of indicators, which help to provide an understanding of the Council's effective use of resources. |
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Legal:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. None. |
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Risk Management:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Any areas of ongoing underperformance would be a risk to both service delivery and the reputation of the Council. |
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Staffing (including Trades Unions):
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. None. |
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Equalities/Human Rights:

- | |
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">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. |
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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 acknowledge the continuing overall strong performance in Quarter 2 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.

Background

11. This report focuses on a set of indicators that support the monitoring of progress against the priorities in the Medium Term Plan (MTP).
12. The Directors' Summaries for Quarter 1 are set out below. Appendix A provides the detailed performance data.
13. **Community Services**
Quarter 2 has seen levels of Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) and Serious Acquisition Crimes (SAC) remain relatively stable against Quarter 1, although Theft of Motor Vehicles (TOMV) and Burglary figures are beginning to show increases at the end of the quarter. These increases may indicate crime series that will need monitoring and appropriate action taking if increases continue. In comparison with Quarter 2 in 2013-14 reductions have been seen for ASB and SAC but for SAC these are very small reductions. Robbery levels have not increased in Quarter 2 and Theft from Motor Vehicles (TFMV) levels have reduced from Quarter 1 and are showing lower levels throughout Quarter 2.

14. The condition of Central Bedfordshire's roads and pavements is comparatively good, however the Autumn 2014 Residents' Survey results indicate that satisfaction with Highways continues to be an issue for our residents and there is now an agreement with the service provider that public satisfaction is a key performance indicator, with a financial penalty should we not achieve our target for satisfaction with roads and pavement maintenance. The satisfaction level for roads maintenance has increased to 35% and is within 1% of the local 2015 target and the satisfaction level for pavement maintenance is 45% against local target of 50%.
15. The latest provisional data showed a drop in the percentage of waste being sent for recycling, reuse or composting, the cumulative performance for the 2013/14 year at 49.8% shows a small decline from 2013/14. Analysis shows this as being in line with national trends which show an increase in the amount residual waste being produced per household due to increased consumption. Recycling tonnages have remained static despite this as manufacturers continue to reduce packaging, much of which is recycled.
16. The latest Active People Survey data (June 2014) showed a small rise in the percentage of adults participating in sport or active recreation which at 24.1% is just 0.2% below the national average.
17. **Regeneration**

Most recent employment data shows the employment rate is continuing to improve. The latest data (June 2014) shows that at 78.9%, the Central Bedfordshire employment rate is now 6.7% above the national rate and 3.1% above both the East of England and the SEMLEP average. The number of people in employment has grown by 3,500 (2.8%) in the last quarter and over 4,800 (3.9%) since March 2013, which shows positive signs of the continued economic recovery.
18. A key factor in the development of new businesses and jobs is the need to have the right strategic infrastructure including information technology in place. Specifically on technology good progress is being made in the roll out of both 2Mb and superfast broadband, with provisional outturn data for 2013/14 91.4% coverage of at least 2Mb broadband and 76.8% for superfast access.
19. We will continue to build on this good performance in 2014/15, as we actively work to encourage the growth of suitable businesses in Central Bedfordshire; influencing this through effective use of our assets, sector development and a package of support from Central Bedfordshire Council aligned to our key businesses, sectors and potential investors.

Conclusion and Next Steps

20. Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider this report and make any recommendations to Executive.

Appendices:

Appendix A – (Quarter 2 Performance Indicators)

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

Executive 13 January 2015