

2014/15 Quarter 4 Performance Report

Report of Cllr Richard Wenham, Executive Member for Corporate Resources (Richard.Wenham@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

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This report relates to a non-Key Decision

Purpose of this report

1. To report Quarter 4 2014/15 performance for Central Bedfordshire Council's Medium Term Plan (MTP) indicator set. This report comprises the following sections:
 - overall summary for the Quarter 4 and the year end (see paragraph 7 -11 below).
 - the Executive report scorecard (see page 2 of this report)
 - performance as at end of quarter 4 2014/15 (page 4)
 - Green performance
 - Amber performance
 - Red performance
 - Directorate summaries (pages 7 to 12 of this report).

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive is asked to:

1. Acknowledge the continuing good performance for those indicators currently being used to help support the monitoring of progress against the Medium Term Plan priorities, and to ask officers to further investigate and resolve underperforming indicators as appropriate.

Overview and Scrutiny Comments/Recommendations

2. During the August cycle of meetings, relevant sections of this report will be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny committees.

Executive report scorecard - Quarter 4

Enhance your local community						
		Performance will be reported	Latest Actual	Last Reported	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 (Bi-Annual)	91 %	Sep 14	↑	★
...	A2 MTP Number of people in employment aged (16 to 64) (% above national average)	Quarterly	9.1 %	Dec 14	↑	★
...	A3 MTP % of approved residential developments achieving CABE excellent status	Quarterly	100 %	Mar 15	→	★
...	A4 MTP Number of Serious Acquisitive Crimes (Rate for 1,000)	Quarterly	3.0	Mar 15	↓	★
...	A5 MTP Number of recorded anti-social behaviour incidents	Quarterly	1,731	Mar 15	↓	N/A
Improved educational attainment						
...	B1 MTP Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English & Maths - ranking	Annual (Dec)	72	Dec 14	↑	▲
...	B2 MTP Young People who are not in education, employment or training-Ranking	Annual Average (Nov - Jan)	42	Feb 15	↑	●
...	B3 MTP Number of education and training opportunities made available in the Autumn.	Annual (School Yr)	5,278	Dec 14	↑	★
...	B4 MTP Published Ofsted School & College classifications (% good/outstanding)	Quarterly	84 %	Mar 15	→	★
Promote health and wellbeing and protect the vulnerable						
...	C1 MTP Protecting Vulnerable Adults	Quarterly	Green	Mar 15	→	★
...	C2 MTP Additional 'Extra Care' flats provided	Quarterly	Red	Mar 15	→	▲
...	C3 MTP Percentage of decent homes (Council stock)	Quarterly	99.6 %	Mar 15	↓	●
...	C4a MTP Village Care Scheme % Coverage	Quarterly	100 %	Mar 15	→	★
...	C5a MTP Percentage of council commissioned dementia classed as 'good' or 'excellent'	Quarterly	84.1 %	Mar 15	→	★
...	C6 MTP % clients receiving self directed support	Quarterly	74.9 %	Mar 15	↓	▲
...	C7 MTP Percentage of 40 to 74 year olds offered a health check	Quarterly	106.7 %	Mar 15	↓	★
...	C8a MTP % of referrals of children leading to the provision of a social care service (Cumulative)	Quarterly	84.5 %	Mar 15	↑	★
...	C9a MTP % of children's social care assessments within 45 working days of start (Cumulative)	Quarterly	96.2 %	Mar 15	↑	★
...	C10 MTP % child protection cases due to be reviewed during that year were reviewed	Quarterly	100 %	Mar 15	→	★
...	C11 MTP Average time in days between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family	Quarterly	539	Mar 15	↓	▲
Better infrastructure						
...	D1a MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with road maintenance	Resident's Survey (Bi-Annual)	35 %	Sep 14	↑	●
...	D1b MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with pavement maintenance	Resident's Survey (Bi-Annual)	45 %	Sep 14	↓	●
...	D2 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire with access to superfast broadband	Annual (March)	76.8 %	Mar 14	↑	★
...	D3 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire with access to at least 2Mb broadband	Annual (March)	91.4 %	Mar 14	↑	N/A
Great universal services						
...	E1 MTP % of household waste sent for reuse, recycling & composting (Rolling 4 Quarters)	Quarterly	49.3 %	Dec 14	↓	●
...	E2 MTP Percentage of adults in Central Bedfordshire taking part in sport or active recreation (APS)	Bi-Annual	23.3 %	Dec 14	↓	●
...	E3 MTP Percentage Satisfaction of adults with library services	Every 3 years (Mar)	95 %	Mar 13	↑	★
...	E4 MTP Number of visits to libraries	Annual (March)	993,971	Mar 14	↑	N/A
Value for money						
...	F1 MTP Percentage increase in Council Tax	Annual (March)	0 %	Mar 15	→	★

3. There are 29 indicators in the current MTP basket. 26 have agreed targets and a RAG status and direction of travel and for the other three indicators we only report a direction of travel.
4. Arrows in the scorecard show the performance 'direction of travel' and the RAG symbols shows whether or not agreed targets are being met.

Performance Judgement		
Direction of travel (DoT)		RAG score
 Performance is reducing		Target missed – Performance at least 10% below the required level of improvement
 Performance remains unchanged		Target missed – Performance less than 10% below the required level of improvement
 Performance is improving		Target achieved

5. In this report the latest data for all the Council's MTP indicators is shown, even if new data is not being reported this quarter, so that a complete picture of overall performance is given.
 6. During 2014/15, quarterly performance reports were presented to Executive and over the year the 29 MTP indicators were reported as follows:
 - 17 indicators every quarter
 - four twice yearly
 - i. two in Q1 & 2
 - ii. two in Q1 & 3
 - seven annually
 - i. one in Q1
 - ii. one in Q3
 - iii. five in Q4 (or as soon after when data is available)
- and
- one indicator is only measured every three years and will next be reported in Q1 2016/17.

Quarterly 4 Summary

7. Of the 26 indicators which are RAG scored, twenty reported new data in Quarter 4. In the main performance reported in the last quarter has been sustained:
 - 13 are GREEN;
 - 4 are AMBER; and
 - 3 are RED.

The following tables show the current RAG Status for all indicators at the end of 2014/15.

Quarter 4 – Green

Green Performance					
...	Indicator	Latest data	Target (Period)	Actual (Period)	Current Status
...	A1 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire residents satisfied with the local area as a place to live	Sep 14	84 %	91 %	★
...	A2 MTP Number of people in employment aged (16 to 64) (% above national average)	Dec 14	5.0 %	9.1 %	★
...	A3 MTP % of approved residential developments achieving CABE excellent status	Mar 15	100 %	100 %	★
...	A4 MTP Number of Serious Acquisitive Crimes (Rate for 1,000)	Mar 15	3.2	3.0	★
...	B3 MTP Number of education and training opportunities made available in the Autumn.	Dec 14	5,211	5,278	★
...	B4 MTP Published Ofsted School & College classifications (% good/outstanding)	Mar 15	75 %	84 %	★
...	C1 MTP Protecting Vulnerable Adults	Mar 15	Green	Green	★
...	C4a MTP Village Care Scheme % Coverage	Mar 15	100 %	100 %	★
...	C5a MTP Percentage of council commissioned dementia classed as 'good' or 'excellent'	Mar 15	60.0 %	84.1 %	★
...	C7 MTP Percentage of 40 to 74 year olds offered a health check	Mar 15	100.0 %	106.7 %	★
...	C8a MTP % of referrals of children leading to the provision of a social care service (Cumulative)	Mar 15	75.0 %	84.5 %	★
...	C9a MTP % of children's social care assessments within 45 working days of start (Cumulative)	Mar 15	90.0 %	96.2 %	★
...	C10 MTP % child protection cases due to be reviewed during that year were reviewed	Mar 15	100 %	100 %	★
...	D2 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire with access to superfast broadband	Mar 14	76.8 %	76.8 %	★
...	E3 MTP Percentage Satisfaction of adults with library services	Mar 13	93 %	95 %	★
...	F1 MTP Percentage increase in Council Tax	Mar 15	0 %	0 %	★

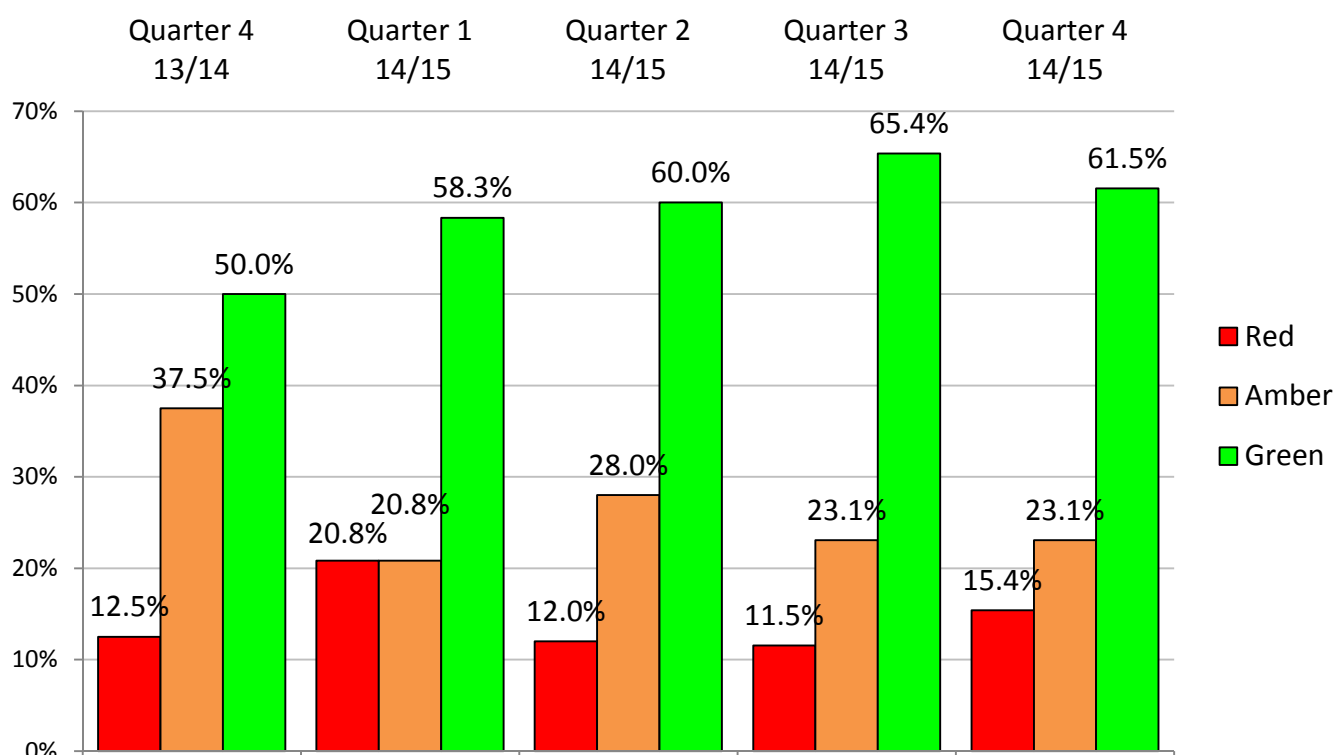
Quarter 4 – Amber

Amber Performance					
...	Indicator	Latest data	Target (Period)	Actual (Period)	Current Status
...	B2 MTP Young People who are not in education, employment or training-Ranking	Feb 15	38	42	●
...	C3 MTP Percentage of decent homes (Council stock)	Mar 15	100.0 %	99.6 %	●
...	D1a MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with road maintenance	Sep 14	36 %	35 %	●
...	D1b MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with pavement maintenance	Sep 14	50 %	45 %	●
...	E1 MTP % of household waste sent for reuse, recycling & composting (Rolling 4 Quarters)	Dec 14	51.0 %	49.3 %	●
...	E2 MTP Percentage of adults in Central Bedfordshire taking part in sport or active recreation (APS)	Dec 14	24.2 %	23.3 %	●

Quarter 4 – Red

Red Performance					
...	Indicator	Latest data	Target (Period)	Actual (Period)	Current Status
...	B1 MTP Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English & Maths -ranking	Dec 14	38	72	▲
...	C11 MTP Average time in days between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family	Mar 15	487	539	▲
...	C2 MTP Additional 'Extra Care' flats provided	Mar 15	Green	Red	▲
...	C6 MTP % clients receiving self directed support	Mar 15	100.0 %	74.9 %	▲

8. While the same indicators are not reported every quarter, the following chart shows there has been improvement since the start of the year when 79% were reported as Green or Amber rising to 89% in Quarter 3 and ending the year at 84%.
9. While the same indicators are not reported every quarter, the following chart shows there has been improvement since the start of the year when 79% were reported as Green or Amber rising to 89% in Quarter 3 and ending the year at 84%.



Year end position

10. At year end, of the 26 indicators which we RAG score, sixteen indicators were meeting or exceeding agreed targets (GREEN), six narrowly missed targets (AMBER) and four missed their target and were scored as RED. Three of our 29 MTP indicators are not scored as there are no targets set for these.

(Note: the 2014/15 actuals for 3 indicators - E1MTP cumulative % of waste sent for recycling, reuse and composting and Broadband D2 & D3 MTP are still awaited).

11. Importantly, within each of the RED, AMBER and GREEN categories there are indicators showing significant improvement when compared to 2013/14. Where we can directly compare actuals for 2014/15 with those reported in 2013/14, it is pleasing to report that:

- 12 show improved performance. While the improvement made no change to the RAG status of nine of these, both C8a the cumulative percentage of referrals of children leading to the provision of a social care service and C9a the cumulative percentage of children's social care assessments undertaken within 45 working days of start have moved from AMBER to GREEN.

- 10 maintained performance in line with 2013/14 levels, with six continuing to achieve the maximum level of performance (100% or above);
- 2014/15 saw an increase for A4 MTP serious acquisition crime rate; however this is still reporting GREEN as at 3.0 it is better than the 3.2 target; and
- only one indicator, C11 MTP the rolling three year average for the length of time a child entering care takes to move in with its adoptive family reported a downturn from GREEN at the end of March 2014 to RED.

12. Overall, this is encouraging and shows that real progress has been made in 2014/15, with performance remaining strong across the priorities in the Medium Term Plan with only a small number of indicators scored as red.

Social Care, Health & Housing

Promote health and wellbeing and protect the vulnerable	Performance will be reported	Actual	Latest Data	Direction of Travel	Current Status
C1 MTP Protecting Vulnerable Adults	Quarterly	Green	Mar 15	→	★
C2 MTP Additional 'Extra Care' flats provided	Quarterly	Red	Mar 15	→	▲
C3 MTP Percentage of decent homes (Council stock)	Quarterly	99.6 %	Mar 15	↓	●
C4a MTP Village Care Scheme % Coverage	Quarterly	100 %	Mar 15	→	★
C5a MTP Percentage of council commissioned dementia classed as 'good' or 'excellent'	Quarterly	84.1 %	Mar 15	→	★
C6 MTP % clients receiving self directed support	Quarterly	74.9 %	Mar 15	↓	▲

Summary - Social Care, Health & Housing

Quarter 4 (January to March 2015)

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

The proportion of people who receive self-directed support (C1 MTP) decreased slightly in March 2015, however the 2014-15 outturn shows a slight improvement from the previous year and it is anticipated that the proportion of people receiving self directed support locally will continue to exceed both regional and national averages.

C2 MTP Additional Extra Care Flats will move to green when the Priory View development is completed in Autumn 2015.

People across all wards in Central Bedfordshire have access to Village Care schemes, with 818 volunteers. 620 residents used the schemes between January and March 2015.

Progress has been maintained in the other targets.

Public Health

Promote health and wellbeing and protect the vulnerable	Performance will be reported	Actual	Latest Data	Direction of Travel	Current Status
C7 MTP Percentage of 40 to 74 year olds offered a health check	Quarterly	106.7 %	Mar 15	↓	★

Summary - Public Health

Quarter 4 (January to March 2015)

Health Checks continue to be an effective way to identify residents who are at high risk of developing cardio-vascular disease and then to provide them with support to reduce this risk through changing lifestyle behaviours and / or medication.

At the end of 2014/15 the percentage of Health Checks offered exceed target and was 106.7% (17,281 invited against a target of 16,195). The conversion rate, which is the proportion of Health Checks delivered against those offered, at 47.7% is lower than our target of 66% but in line with national rates and higher than the outturn in 2013/14.

Work has continued to support GP practices including improved promotional literature for patients and sharing best practice. Point of care blood testing has been introduced in practices to reduce the number of appointments and therefore increase uptake of the health check. In addition Quest Browser software (which can directly interrogate and pull data direct from GP systems), will now be used in the majority of practices from Q1 15/16, as well as ensuring the quality of the health check, this will help target invitations better, including for those at highest risk and those yet to be offered a Health Check, as the new 5 year period begins post April 2015.

Children's Services

Improved educational attainment	Performance will be reported	Actual	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 (Dec)	72	Dec 14	↑	▲
B2 MTP Young People who are not in education, employment or training-Ranking	Annual Average (Nov - Jan)	42	Feb 15	↑	●
B3 MTP Number of education and training opportunities made available in the Autumn.	Annual (School Yr)	5,278	Dec 14	↑	★
B4 MTP Published Ofsted School & College classifications (% good/outstanding)	Quarterly	84 %	Mar 15	→	★
Promote health and wellbeing and protect the vulnerable					
C8a MTP % of referrals of children leading to the provision of a social care service (Cumulative)	Quarterly	84.5 %	Mar 15	↑	★
C9a MTP % of children's social care assessments within 45 working days of start (Cumulative)	Quarterly	96.2 %	Mar 15	↑	★
C10 MTP % child protection cases due to be reviewed during that year were reviewed	Quarterly	100 %	Mar 15	→	★
C11 MTP Average time in days between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family	Quarterly	539	Mar 15	↓	▲

Summary - Children's Services

Children's Services Quarter 4 (January - March 2015)

The percentage of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) remains low and Central Bedfordshire continues to perform well at 3.7% - better than the national average 4.7% and the regional average 4.5%. An Amber rating has been given as the target of being in the top quartile has been missed by 0.2% (or 17 young people). Central Bedfordshire remains in the 2nd quartile of all Local Authorities and is currently 42nd out of 152 Authorities. To be in the top quartile Central Bedfordshire needs to be in the top 38 performing authorities.

The number of education and training opportunities made available during the Autumn for young people in Central Bedfordshire has increased to 5278 from 5211 in the previous year.

84% of schools and colleges are good or outstanding - which is good performance. Ofsted publish a similar indicator which does not include colleges or sponsored Academies which are yet to be inspected. This shows Central Bedfordshire compares well to statistical neighbours and national averages - as at 31 December 2014, 84% of Central Bedfordshire Schools are good or better and the Statistical Neighbour Average was 81% and England 81%.

Performance data across safeguarding measures is good at the end of Quarter 4 2014/15, with three measures achieving target. Child protection reviews completed

The new Access and Referral Hub has added greater stability to the referral process. 84.5% of referrals have led to the provision of a social care service - achieving the 75% target. This indicator reflects the proportion of referrals that go on to further social care input, in most cases this will be to start an assessment. Detailed analysis of completed referrals has shown that assessments are started where needed and continue to focus correctly on the right children who need our services. within timescales continue to achieve the 100% target.

The ambitious 90% target for assessments completed within 45 days has been achieved, the Q4 figure 96.2% demonstrates that performance is good. The new processes are now well established with good performance expected to continue through 2015/16.

Children are placed in their permanent home without undue delay which is particularly important in enabling very young children to form positive emotional attachments. The average timescales from entering care and moving in with adoptive family for the 3 years ending 31 March 15 was 539 days. Whilst this is 52 days above the nationally set target the timings were in the best interests of the child and the adoptive family and is 3 days lower than our 2011/14 outturn. Central Bedfordshire continues to compare well to other local authorities. With more adoptions planned and shorter timescales in most cases it is expected that improvements will be apparent in the coming year. This indicator is based on a rolling 3 year cohort.

Community Services					
Enhance your local community	Performance will be reported	Actual	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 (Bi-Annual)	91 %	Sep 14	↑	★
A5 MTP Number of recorded anti-social behaviour incidents	Quarterly	1,731	Mar 15	↓	N/A
	Seasonal				
A4 MTP Number of Serious Acquisitive Crimes (Rate for 1,000)	Quarterly	3.0	Mar 15	↓	★
Better infrastructure					
D1a MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with road maintenance	Resident's Survey (Bi-Annual)	35 %	Sep 14	↑	●
D1b MTP Percentage resident satisfaction with pavement maintenance	Resident's Survey (Bi-Annual)	45 %	Sep 14	↓	●
Great universal services					
E1 MTP % of household waste sent for reuse, recycling & composting (Rolling 4 Quarters)	Quarterly	49.3 %	Dec 14	↓	●
E2 MTP Percentage of adults in Central Bedfordshire taking part in sport or active recreation (APS)	Bi-Annual	23.3 %	Dec 14	↓	●
E3 MTP Percentage Satisfaction of adults with library services	Every 3 years (Mar)	95 %	Mar 13	↑	★
E4 MTP Number of visits to libraries	Annual (March)	993,971	Mar 14	↑	N/A

Summary - Community Services

Quarter 4 (January to March 2015)

There has been an increase in Serious Acquisitive Crime (5.5%) in Central Bedfordshire during 2014/15, compared to the previous 12 months. However, robbery offences have remained stable and there were 34 less domestic burglary offences recorded in 2014-15 than the previous year, a decrease of 3.5%.

Increases were seen in vehicle crimes which have been linked to an organised crime group, and the Community Safety Partnership is working closely with Bedfordshire Police to target this group.

There were 3,278 incidents of domestic abuse (both crime and non crime) reported to Bedfordshire Police during 2014/15, an increase of 580 incidents when compared to the previous 12 months. The increase seen in incidents reported is due to recording changes in Bedfordshire Police. These changes will enable crimes to be recorded more accurately and means that domestic abuse victims will receive the specialist response and support that they require.

Anti-Social Behaviour incidents reported to Bedfordshire Police have remained fairly stable when compared to the previous 12 months. There were 255 more incidents reported in 2014-2015 than in the previous 12 months, an increase of 3.7%. Reports of nuisance motorcycles continue to be a significant percentage of incidents reported and the CSP is continuing to work closely with partners and Town Councils to tackle this issue.

Satisfaction with road maintenance has dropped from 35% in September 2014 to 31% in April 2015. However, longer term analysis shows a seasonal fluctuation, with spring results always coming below autumn results. Satisfaction compared to April 2014 shows a slight increase of 1%. Satisfaction with pavement maintenance has increased from 45% in September to 48% in April 2015.

The latest Active People Survey data (October 2014) showed a small decrease (0.8%) in the percentage of adults participating in sport or active recreation, which at 23.3% is 2.4% below the national average. Although rates in CBC are relatively stable at the moment, participation will increase once the delivery of the Physical Activity Strategy is implemented and facilities are improved.

End of year figures for Waste and for number of visits to libraries were not available in time for publication in the Q4 report. The number of visits to libraries will be available in the next reporting period, and Waste full end of year outturn figures are due to be released at the end of July 2015.

Regeneration

Enhance your local community	Performance will be reported	Actual	Latest Data	Direction of Travel	Current Status
A2 MTP Number of people in employment aged (16 to 64) (% above national average)	Quarterly	9.1 %	Dec 14	↑	★
A3 MTP % of approved residential developments achieving CABE excellent status	Quarterly	100 %	Mar 15	→	★
Better infrastructure					
D2 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire with access to superfast broadband	Annual (March)	76.8 %	Mar 14	↑	★
D3 MTP Percentage of Central Bedfordshire with access to at least 2Mb broadband	Annual (March)	91.4 %	Mar 14	↑	N/A

Summary - Regeneration

Quarter 4 (January to March 2015)

654 Affordable Homes were provided by the end of 2014/15, exceeding the target of 300, and representing a 50% increase on the number provided in the previous year. This is the highest since the creation of Central Bedfordshire Council in 2009.

Employment has continued to increase and the level of unemployment has fallen, reflecting signs of a strengthening local labour market and providing support for Central Bedfordshire's vision of being a 'great place to live and work'. Central Bedfordshire now has an employment rate of 81.6%, which is 9.1% above the national employment rate, and exceeds the target for Central Bedfordshire to remain 5% above the national rate.

The level of unemployment has also fallen, and the number of out of work benefits claimants and Youth Unemployment rates have also continued to show a steady decrease throughout the year, and remains significantly below comparator areas.

Skill levels amongst adults in Central Bedfordshire have also increased during 2014 compared to 2013. The number of adults qualified to NVQ Level 4 or above has increased to 35.1% and is now higher than SEMLEP and East of England levels. The number of adults qualified to NVQ Level 2 or above has increased to 74% and is above all comparator areas.

End of year outturn figures were not available for Broadband coverage for publication in the Q4 report, but will be available for the next reporting period.

We will continue to build on this good performance into 2015/16 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.

Finance

Value for money	Performance will be reported	Actual	Latest Data	Direction of Travel	Current Status
F1 MTP Percentage increase in Council Tax	Annual (March)	0 %	Mar 15	➡	★

Summary - Finance

Quarter 4 (January to March 2015)

At Full Council on 26 February, the Council agreed for the fifth consecutive year not to increase the Council Tax charges it makes; so there will be no increase for the 2015/16 year arising from CBC charges.

This has only been possible through very careful financial management which has seen some £70m removed from the annual running costs of the council since 2009. Whilst no increase in Council Tax required a further saving of £13.7m to be made in the 2015/16 financial year for a balanced budget, this is being carefully planned so that front line services are protected as much as possible.

The 2015/16 budget provides for £186.5m to be invested in day-to-day services across our area in the next year. Council also agreed a four-year programme of spending from capital and housing budgets to invest in services such as leisure, new and improved accommodation to help people to live independently and improvements to the area's roads.

Council Priorities

12. The high proportion of indicators scored as Green evidences that the Council continues to perform well across a wide range of services and the MTP indicator basket underpins the delivery of the Council's Medium Term Plan priorities:
- enhancing your local community – creating jobs, managing growth,
 - protecting our countryside and enabling businesses to grow.
 - improved educational attainment
 - promote health and well being and protect the vulnerable
 - better infrastructure – improved roads, broadband reach and transport
 - great universal services – bins, leisure and libraries
 - value for money – freezing council tax.

Corporate Implications

Legal Implications

13. None directly, however any areas of on-going underperformance would be a risk to both service delivery and the reputation of the Council.

Financial Implications

14. None directly, although the MTP indicator set monitors the percentage increase in Council Tax.

Equalities Implications

15. 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.
16. 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

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

Sustainability:

18. A broad range of indicators relating to sustainability including those covering employment, access to broadband, library usage, active recreation and waste are included in the MTP indicator set.

Community Safety:

19. The levels of serious acquisitive crime and anti-social behaviour are included in the MTP indicator set.

Risk Management:

20. Effective monitoring of performance indicators mitigates the risk of failing to deliver the Council's priorities, reputational risks and the risk of failing to deliver statutory responsibilities.

21. Of the 29 indicators used to monitor our Medium Term Plan commitments, eleven have comparator data available through LG Inform web based tool comparing our performance with national averages and an overview is presented in Appendix A to this report to show how well we compare overall.
22. Currently we can only report on these eleven indicators as the metrics and the data held in LG Inform differ slightly from those reported in our quarterly performance reports - either in terms of the currency of the data as much of this is historical, or because the exact definition of the measure is slightly different, and whenever indicators we measure in our Medium Term Plan indicator basket become available within the LG Inform web-based tool we continue to integrate this into our performance reporting.

Central Bedfordshire Council - MTP indicators reported in LG Inform

The Council's Medium Term Plan (MTP) 'Delivering Your Priorities' sets out this Council's priorities and the way in which we measure performance in delivering these. There are a total of 29 indicators used to monitor these MTP commitments of which eleven have comparator data available through LG Inform. These eleven indicators are presented in this report which enables an understanding of how we compare to other areas.

While not all the indicators we measure in our Medium Term Plan indicator basket have comparator information available within the LG Inform web-based tool, where this is available we are now integrating this into our performance reporting framework.

In some cases the metrics and the data held in LG Inform differ slightly from those reported in our quarterly performance reports - either in terms of the currency of the data as much of this is historical, or because the exact definition of the measure is slightly different. However, the charts and text give a high level overview of how CBC performance for these eleven measures compare with national averages.

How to interpret the charts

The report contains a series of horizontal bullet charts comparing recent Central Bedfordshire performance against the national average across eleven different indicators. Each chart is followed by some summary text which provides a brief overview.

On each chart the purple dot represents the Central Bedfordshire figure and the blue dot shows the national (England) average.

Polarity is based upon Central Bedfordshire's performance relative to 'All English authorities'. The polarity colours are separated into three (green, amber, red) with green representing better performance. Arrows down the right hand side reflect the direction of travel in Central Bedfordshire for that indicator compared to the previous year/quarter. Note that for some metrics a lower figure represents better performance.

Two of the charts present data that LG Inform considers to have no polarity (ie. there is no definition as to whether a high or low figure is considered better performance) - this is clearly stated in the text following each chart. Therefore the colours of these charts are less relevant. In these charts yellow represents higher values and black reflects lower values.

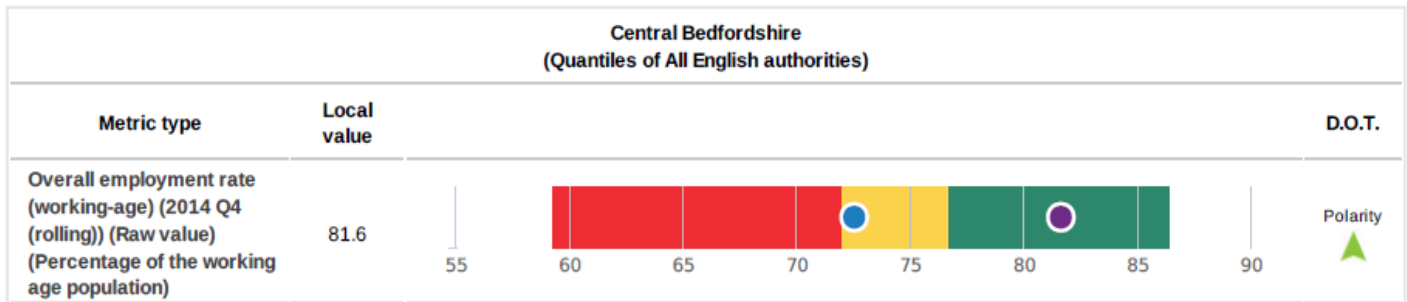
Please note that the time period covered by each indicator varies, with the date listed in the heading down the left hand side.



LG Inform

LG Inform is an online tool developed by the Local Government Association (LGA) that brings together publically available information for easy comparison.

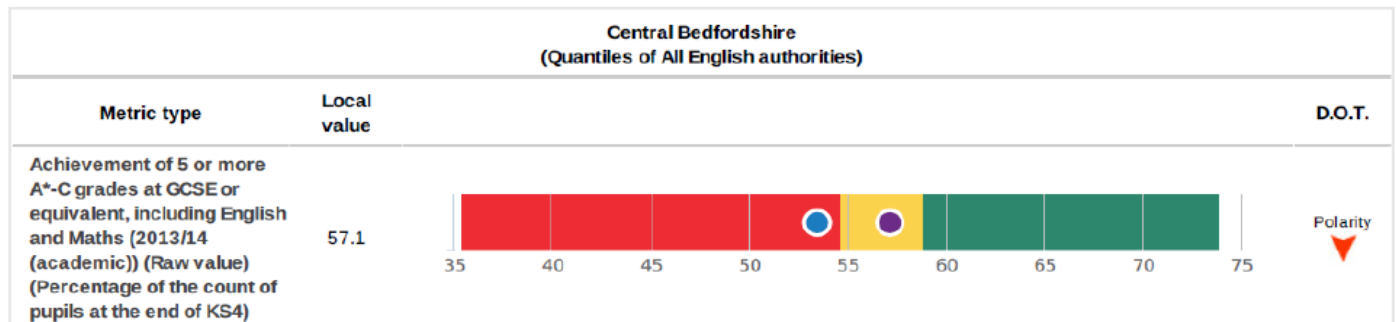
Central Bedfordshire Medium Term Plan Indicators



The employment rate in Central Bedfordshire stood at 81.6% in December 2014, compared to the national figure of 72.5%.

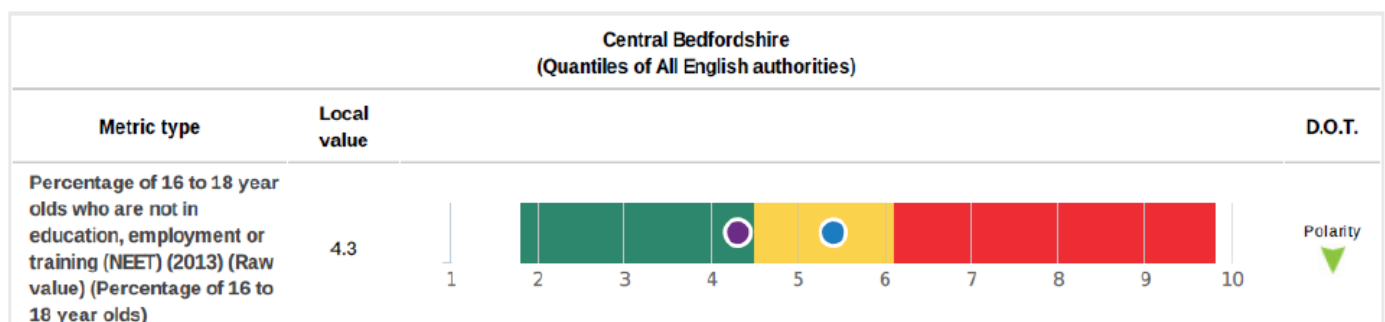
Our medium term plan commitment is to remain 5% above the national average - and CBC is currently 9.1% points above the England average for the most recent December 2014 data.

This is a significant improvement over recent quarters, and the highest percentage above the national figure for over 5 years.



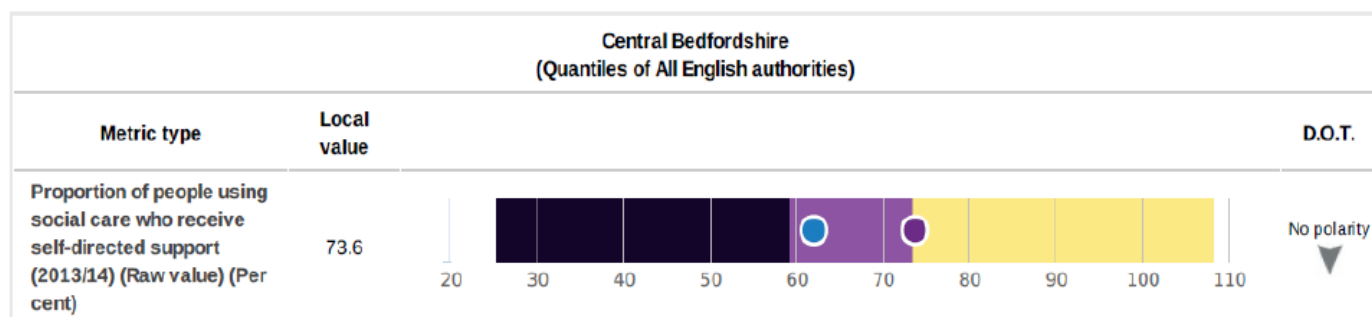
In 2013/14, 57.1% of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 in Central Bedfordshire achieved 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent, including English and Maths, compared to the national average of 53.4% .

Our MTP commitment is to be in the top 25% by 2016 (ie. ranked in the top 38). The 2013/14 results position Central Bedfordshire's ranking as 72 of 151 local authorities - this is a major improvement from 114th in the previous year.



The rate of NEETs in Central Bedfordshire has decreased from 4.6% in 2012/13 to 4.3% in 2013/14 and remains well below the national average of 5.4%. 2014/15 results indicate a further improvement for CBC to 3.7%, compared to an England average of 4.7%.

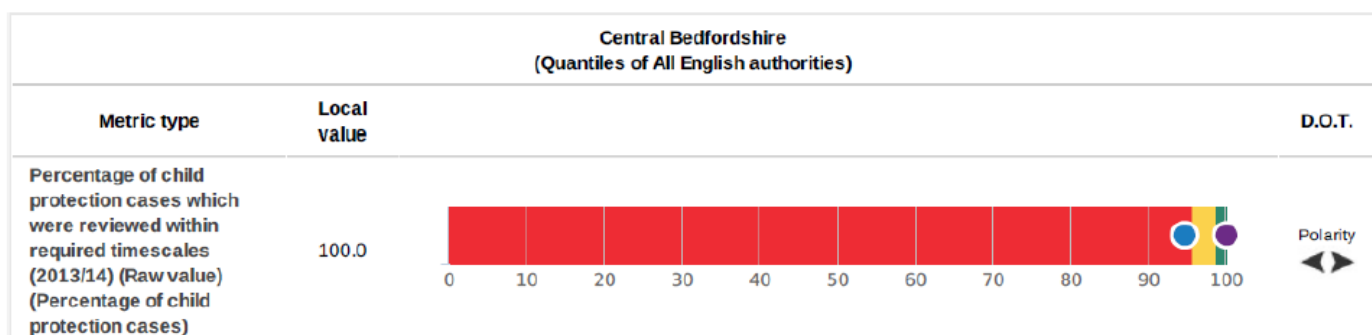
Our MTP commitment is to be in the top quartile (ie. ranked in the top 38) and reduce the numbers year on year. The 2014/15 results position Central Bedfordshire ranking as 42 of 152 local authorities, a slight improvement from 43rd in the previous year.



Our MTP commitment was to achieve 100% performance, which was a challenging stretch target set locally.

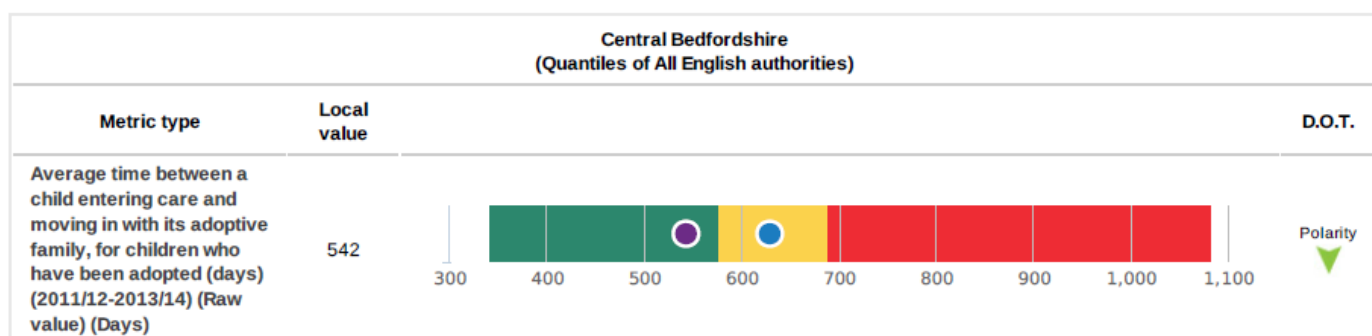
The proportion of people in 2013/14 using social care who receive self-directed support in Central Bedfordshire was 73.6%, significantly greater than the national rate of 61.9%. Provisional data for 2014/15 suggests a Central Bedfordshire rate of 74.9%.

Note that this metric has no polarity.



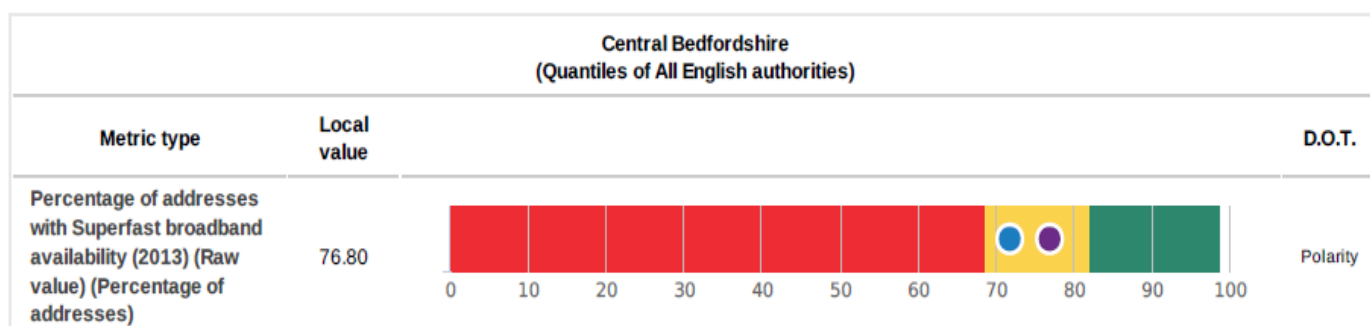
Our MTP commitment is to ensure 100% of child protection places are reviewed within the required timescales and we monitor and report this performance on a quarterly basis, whereas LG Inform reports on an annual basis.

100% of child protection cases were reviewed within the required timescales in Central Bedfordshire in 2013/14, compared to the England average of 94.6%. Central Bedfordshire has also achieved 100% in 2014/15.



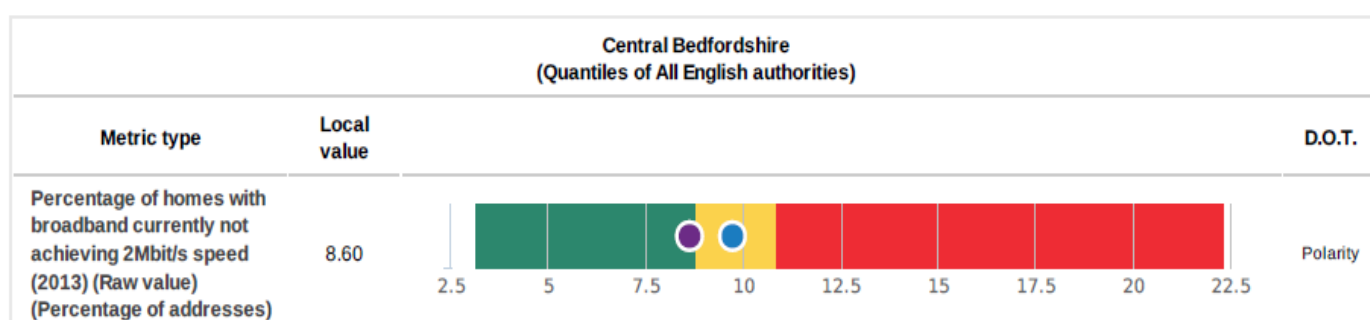
Our MTP commitment is to meet government targets and the chart above shows that in 2011/12-2013/14 Central Bedfordshire, at 542 days over a rolling 3 year target, was well ahead of the national average (628 days) for the average time taken between a child entering care and moving in with its adopted family.

Our latest MTP Quarter 4 report for March 2015 shows a decline to 539 days, though this is still better than the national and statistical neighbour averages.



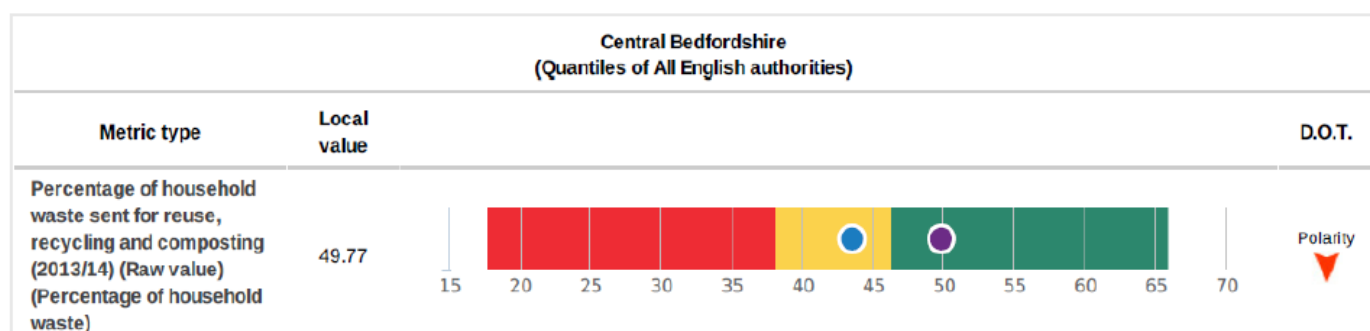
Our MTP target is for 95% of households in Central Bedfordshire to have access to superfast broadband by 2016.

By the end of 2013/14 Central Bedfordshire was on target with 76.8% households having access to superfast broadband, compared to the England rate of 71.7%.



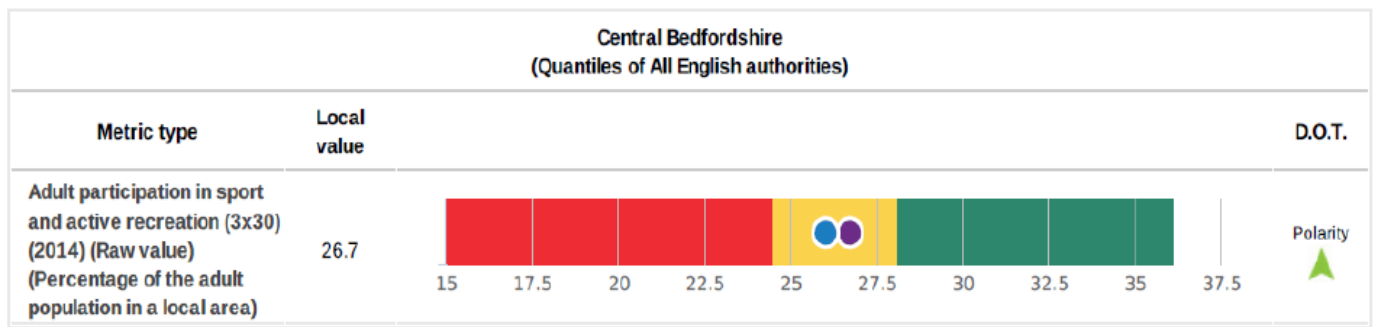
Our MTP commitment is for all Central Bedfordshire households to have access to at least 2mb broadband by 2016.

The above chart shows that by the end of 2013/14, 8.6% of Central Bedfordshire homes were yet to reach this standard (91.4% already have access to at least 2mb broadband), slightly better than the national average of 9.7%.



Our MTP commitment is to achieve a 60% reuse, recycling or composting rate by 2020.

By the end of 2013/14, 49.77% of waste arising from Central Bedfordshire's households was sent for reuse, recycling or composting, compared to the lower national rate of 43.45%.

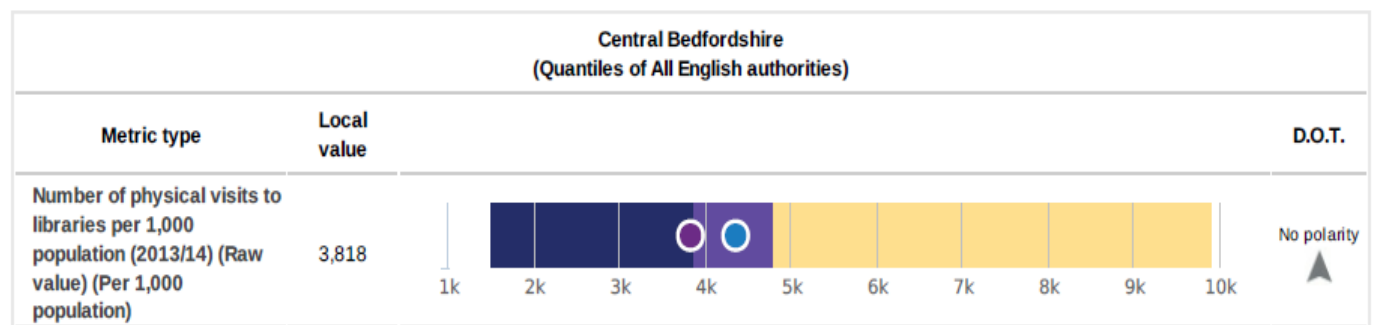


Our MTP commitment is to ensure Central Bedfordshire's adult participation in sport and physical activity remains above the national average.

The Active Sport Survey records participation with two measures informing on those who participate in the equivalent of at least 3 sessions of 30 minutes sport or recreation per week.

The measure reported in LG Inform recorded a 26.7% participation in Central Bedfordshire which was slightly higher than the England average of 26.0% .

The measure we use in the MTP shows we were 2.4% below the national average for the period October 2012-October 2014 as 23.3% of CBC adults participated, compared to a national average of 25.7%.



Our MTP commitment is to achieve a 20% increase in the usage of libraries by 2016 from the 2011/12 baseline to around 1.3 million visits in a year.

The above chart records the number of visits per 1,000 people for 2013/14 with Central Bedfordshire at 3,818 performing below the national average of 4,344.

The actual number of visits to Central Bedfordshire libraries recorded for 2013/14 is 993,971, an increase of 5,000 compared with 2012/13.

Note that this metric has no polarity