

Cabinet
Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

8 July 2014
16 July 2014

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member (Strategic Finance and Resources) – Councillor Gannon

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Chief Executive

Ward(s) affected:

None

Title:

Council Plan – Performance Report 2013/14

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

In January 2014 the new Council Plan setting out the strategic direction and priorities for the next ten years was approved by Council. Through its plans for growth, the Council wants the city to become more prosperous and to meet the needs of its citizens. The Council believes that economic prosperity will create more resources which can then be redistributed more equally.

Progress against the priorities and objectives of the Council Plan is reported on a half-yearly basis. This performance report summarises progress in 2013/14 in relation to the plan priorities and a set of key headline indicators. Where applicable contextual information has been included to describe what is happening in Coventry and how this compares with elsewhere.

The Council's equality objectives have also been revised in light of the new Council Plan. Some of the headline indicators included in this report are already equality indicators, and a more detailed report will be submitted to Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities) in September 2014.

Recommendations:

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Approve the end of year performance report

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is asked to:

- (i) Consider the content of the report and identify any areas to be addressed in the work programmes of the Scrutiny Boards.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix A – Council Plan End of Year Performance Report 2013/14

Background papers:

None

Other useful documents

Council Plan – January 2014 <http://www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan/>

Council Plan End of Year Performance Report 2012/13 (9 July 2013)

<http://democraticservices.coventry.gov.uk/documents/s11842/Council%20Plan%20Performance%20Report%202012-13.pdf>

Equality Strategy - revision to the equality objectives (27 March 2014)

<http://democraticservices.coventry.gov.uk/documents/s15764/Equality%20Strategy%20-%20proposed%20revision%20to%20the%20equality%20objectives.pdf>

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee – 16 July 2014

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title: Council Plan – Performance Report 2013/14

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 The new Council Plan setting out the strategic direction and priorities for the next ten years was approved by Council in January 2014. Through its plans for growth the Council wants the city to become more prosperous and to meet the needs of its citizens. The Council believes that economic prosperity will create more resources which can then be redistributed more equally.
- 1.2 The performance report looks at the progress that has been made in 2013/14 in relation to the plan priorities and a set of key headline indicators. This is a high-level summary and gives an overview including, where applicable, contextual information to describe what is happening in Coventry and how this compares with elsewhere. Where headline indicators have been reported previously, progress has been compared with previous years; where the indicator is new this will form the baseline against which to measure future progress.

2 Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.2 The performance report (Appendix A) shows the progress that has been made for 2013/14. There are 55 headline indicators: 53% improved; 13% stayed the same; 18% worsened, and we cannot say for the remaining 16% of the indicators.
- 2.3 The Council Plan strategic priorities are delivered through strategic and operational plans and this is set out in the Council’s performance management framework.

Strategic: key strategies are in place to deliver the Council Plan priorities and these are reported to and monitored through the relevant Cabinet Member. Wherever possible the headline indicators selected for reporting progress of the Council Plan priorities are also those used to monitor the relevant strategies and thereby performance reporting is aligned.

Operational: each Directorate is responsible for ensuring that the Council Plan priorities are reflected in their service plans and individual objectives. They will also ensure that there are appropriate monitoring arrangements in place to identify progress and to take corrective action as needed.

- 2.4 This report provides the high-level summary of performance and more detailed information is accessible through the Council’s web pages. The reporting arrangements consist of:

- Council Plan performance report providing a high-level summary to Cabinet every six months;
- web-based indicator reports setting out historical trends, comparators, interactive maps, and data visualisations, and
- online links to the Council’s key strategies and progress reports.



Reporting arrangements

- 2.5 The Council’s equality objectives have also been revised in light of the new Council Plan. Some of the headline indicators included in this report are already equality indicators, and a more detailed report will be submitted to Cabinet Member (Policing and Equalities) in September 2014.

- 2.6 As one of the Marmot cities, Coventry recognises that health inequalities result from other areas of social deprivation. The measures for the wider determinants of health are embedded in the Council Plan helping to make sure that all service areas contribute to reducing health inequality in the city.

3 Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 Where appropriate, perception measures collected through the Council telephone surveys and through the wider household survey are used in the performance report to help to understand Coventry citizens' views of the Council and its services. The last telephone survey of 1,100 residents was conducted in April 2014.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 This report is the top-level summary of the reporting framework. The web-based reporting system continues to be updated on a regular basis so that it contains the most up-to-date performance information. A further progress report for 2014/15 half year will be reported in December 2014.

5. Comments from the Executive Director, Resources

5.1 Financial implications

The reporting arrangements outlined in section 2.4 have been developed around the existing performance management system and ICT provision. There have been no additional costs identified. The Council Plan is supported by and should be considered alongside the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy approved by Council 3rd December.

5.2 Legal implications

The Council Plan forms part of the Council's Policy Framework and Cabinet is required to ensure that it is appropriately implemented and monitored. In October 2010 the Government announced changes to the national performance framework for local government, removing the requirement to monitor and produce Local Area Agreements and replacing the National Indicator Set with a single comprehensive list of all the data that it expects local government to provide to central government. This has meant that there is now more flexibility to select performance measures and to determine arrangements that meet the Council's priorities at a local level. This report describes the reporting arrangements for the Council Plan which also need to take account of the Government's Code of Recommended Practice for Local Authorities on Data Transparency.

6. Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key priorities?

The performance report shows progress against the Council's priorities as set out in the Council Plan. The performance management framework describes how the Council directorates plan to deliver these priorities.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

The performance management framework helps the Council to manage risk by systematically measuring progress in relation to the priorities of the Council Plan. This means that areas where good progress is being made can be identified, as well as those areas where progress is not as expected and where corrective action may be needed.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

The Council Plan vision and objectives impact on all the Council's directorates. Effective performance management arrangements at all levels will help to ensure that the Council's priorities are delivered

6.4 Equalities / EIA

Planning and reporting on the Council priorities and objectives will have due regard to the duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 and the need to:

- a) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation;
- b) meet the needs of people regardless of their background; and
- c) encourage all people to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is low.

Setting equality objectives contributes to meeting the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011. The Council has consulted with local equality groups on the equality measures linked to the revised equality objectives and the Council Plan.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

Progress will be measured through energy use in Council buildings and schools and carbon dioxide emissions from local authority operations.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations

Whilst this report reflects progress against the Council's priorities, it also includes actions and measures where the contribution of partners is key to their delivery. The contribution of partners is reflected in the report summaries.

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