



Coventry City Council

Public report
Cabinet

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee
Cabinet

20 July 2022
30 August 2022

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership – Councillor G Duggins

Director approving submission of the report:

Chief Executive

Ward(s) affected:

All

Title:

One Coventry Plan Annual Performance Report 2021-22

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive summary:

Our One Coventry Plan sets out our shared vision and priorities for Coventry. This annual performance report is a retrospective report about our performance towards our priorities between April 2021 and March 2022. As our One Coventry Plan is currently being refreshed, this report sets out our performance towards our current One Coventry performance metrics, but also includes our emerging metrics to provide a baseline for the new One Coventry Plan. As before, for each of the priorities, this report sets out the trends, actions taken, and performance metrics to provide an assessment of the progress made against previous years and with other places.

Recommendations:

Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is asked to:

1. Consider the Council's performance as set out in the performance report.
2. Identify any issues they may wish to raise with Cabinet.
3. Identify areas that Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee or other Scrutiny Boards may wish to address as part of this year's scrutiny work programme.

Cabinet is asked to:

1. Consider any recommendations from Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee.
2. Approve the performance report.

3. Consider the Council's performance this year and identify areas that they wish to address in further detail as part of the refresh of the One Coventry Plan.

List of appendices included:

Appendix I – One Coventry Plan Annual Performance Report 2021-22

Appendix II – One Coventry Performance Management Framework

Background papers:

None

Other useful documents:

One Coventry Plan www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan

Performance and performance management framework www.coventry.gov.uk/performance

Statement of accounts www.coventry.gov.uk/statementofaccounts

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

Yes – Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee July 2022

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:**One Coventry Plan Annual Performance Report 2021-22****1. Context (or background)**

- 1.1 Our One Coventry approach describes the way that we do things, how we work together with our communities and partners to improve the city and improve people's lives. One Coventry is a way of working that enables us to focus on the things that people value most of all, helping us to make the biggest possible impact on the lives of local people. Our One Coventry approach focuses on enabling people to live their best lives in a vibrant and prosperous city. This can only be achieved by listening to, and collaborating with, those who live, work, visit and do business in our city, by having different conversations and building on the great things that are already happening.
- 1.2 The One Coventry Plan is currently being refreshed. This will set out a new strategic vision for the Coventry of 2030. The plan sets out our approach to increasing the economic prosperity of the city and region; improving outcomes and tackling inequalities within our communities; and tackling the causes and consequences of climate change. The achievement of the vision and priorities in the plan will help Coventry benefit from opportunities presented by levelling-up; address the challenges faced as we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic; and deal with the issues most important to our communities, such as the cost-of-living crisis. These are things that the Council cannot do alone: we must continue to work in a way that ensures we maintain continued financial sustainability of the Council, as well as strengthening the Council's role as a partner, enabler, and leader as an anchor organisation in Coventry. Our new plan is more focused on the needs and aspirations of our communities than ever before. We have listened and reflected on what people have been telling us and considered the key issues facing the City.
- 1.3 This annual performance report sets out our performance towards our priorities from April 2021 to March 2022. It sets out our performance towards our current One Coventry performance metrics, but also includes our emerging metrics to provide a baseline for the new One Coventry Plan. As before, for each of the priorities, this report sets out the trends, actions taken, and performance metrics to provide an assessment of the progress made against previous years and with other places.
- 1.4 The Council uses agreed metrics to show progress made towards its priorities. This is supported by a wider basket of metrics including equality and perception metrics that help explain the trends and story behind the headlines. Metrics are selected from key strategies and aligned to directorate priorities and equality and health inequalities objectives. Further information including infographics, open data, maps, and the Coventry citywide intelligence hub are available at www.coventry.gov.uk/infoandstats.
- 1.5 The Council's priorities are delivered through strategies aligned to the One Coventry Plan; as set out in the performance management framework. As part of the performance management process, leadership teams within each directorate and the One Coventry Leadership Team have been involved in ensuring that the organisation's key strategies are aligned to the One Coventry Plan.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 This year, Coventry celebrated its year in the spotlight as the UK City of Culture, which officially ran from May 2021 to May 2022. Early analysis of Coventry's cultural mega-event saw 389,705 tickets issued for live events with a further estimated audience of 136,916 attending unticketed live events across the city; and over 516,000 online audiences to a cultural programme so far - especially important in a cultural event that took place during

an unprecedented lockdown. The City of Culture programme has seen some £172 million pounds invested into the city including major upgrades to the city's public realm and cultural assets; and a total of 709 events delivered involving both professional artists and creatives as well as local artists and community organisations, bringing events to all eighteen wards of the city, including art, music, dance, and theatre. The 'Story of Change' underlying the City of Culture programme means that, in line with our One Coventry Plan priorities, the programme has been geared towards activities, events, and engagement that bring a long-lasting legacy to the city, from investments to sustain and grow our cultural sector, to involving, engaging, and enabling all communities, especially those who are least likely to access and benefit from publicly funded arts and culture.

- 2.2 The city's year as the City of Culture, however, happened during a period of continued significant national and international challenges. In May 2021, as the City of Culture year got off to a start, COVID-19 pandemic-related restrictions remained in place. This created difficulties for a cultural mega-event seeking to bring people together. And as a result, plans have had to be rapidly adapted and changed in line with the rules and restrictions at the time. Now, into 2022, the end of our year in the spotlight has coincided with the worst escalation in hostilities in Europe since 1991 with Russia's War on Ukraine – which is one of the reasons behind the rapid rise in the cost of living – with UK annual inflation in April 2022 the highest it has been since April 1991. The impact of this cost-of-living crisis on communities across the city is yet to be fully realised, as people right across the city face rapidly rising energy, fuel, food, and housing costs.
- 2.3 Working in a One Coventry approach, the Council, partner organisations, and community groups right across the city has responded to the twin challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis by being nimble and adaptable. During the pandemic, the Council and its partners took on additional duties, from supporting residents and businesses during pandemic-related lockdowns and restrictions, to the distribution of energy rebates and grants to Council taxpayers. Additionally, there has been, and will continue to be, more indirect impacts as residents and communities who previously have never needed local authority support face difficulties which mean that they will find themselves in a position of requiring additional help and support from the Council.
- 2.4 The One Coventry Plan 2016-2024 is measured using **75** metrics, of which **32** metrics improved; **8** stayed the same; **18** got worse; can't say for **10** metrics; and progress is not available for the remaining **7** metrics. This means, **69%** (40/58) of directional metrics (excluding cannot say or not available) improved or stayed the same.
- 2.5 As with last year, several metrics are not available this year. This is because there is limited data on school performance because of exam cancellations last summer.
- 2.6 Many of the Council's key priorities have an equality dimension or address an inequality caused by economic or social circumstances. Consequently, this report also sets out how the Council addresses these equality and health inequalities.
- 2.7 This report also includes emerging metrics against the proposed new One Coventry Plan 2022-2030. Where available, this report sets out the current performance and the direction of travel for those metrics over the past year. This is intended to establish a baseline for comparison in future years.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 No consultation has been undertaken in relation to this Annual Performance Report. A full consultation is taking place in relation to the refresh of the One Coventry Plan.

- 3.2 Several metrics come from the biennial Coventry Household Survey, which is based on responses from a statistically representative sample of 4,000 residents.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 This is not applicable for this performance report.

5. Comments from the Director of Finance and the Director of Law and Governance

5.1 Financial implications

Delivery of the Council's objectives will have an impact on the Council's overall financial position. However, there are no direct financial implications from this report.

5.2 Legal implications

The single data list sets out a list of all the datasets that local government must submit to central government. In addition, the Government's local government transparency code sets out the minimum datasets local authorities should publish; the frequency it should be published; and how it should be published. There is no requirement placed on local authorities to publish a report on its performance or any requirement on the Council to publish performance on any metrics.

Coventry City Council does so as it is committed to providing information that helps the Council work together with neighbours and partners, fulfilling its One Coventry Plan vision, priorities, values, and ways of working; and sees it as good practice to do so.

6. Other implications

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

The performance report sets out the progress made towards the One Coventry Plan, that is, the Council's vision and priorities. The performance management framework sets out how the Council plans and organises the resources at its disposal to achieve the vision and priorities, as set out in the Council Plan.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

The performance report helps the Council manage risk by measuring and reviewing progress in relation to the priorities of the One Coventry Plan. It identifies areas where we are making good progress, areas where progress is not as expected, and areas where the Council needs to take corrective action.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

The One Coventry Plan impacts on the whole organisation. Effective performance management arrangements at all levels will help to ensure that the Council's priorities are delivered.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

The Council's performance management framework and reporting arrangements must have due regard to the public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. This includes the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation; to meet the needs of people regardless of their background; and to encourage all people to participate in public life, or in other activities where their participation is low.

Many of the key priorities set out in the One Coventry Plan are also equality objectives. In addition, a specific set of equality objectives has been agreed and progress against these is reported annually to the Cabinet Member (Policing & Equalities). This contributes to meeting the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment

The Council has confirmed our commitment to addressing the issue of climate change and was one of the first local authorities to produce a climate strategy. This strategy is currently being refreshed. This report sets out measures including air quality, energy use, and carbon dioxide emissions from local authority operations. As part of the refresh of the One Coventry Plan, tackling the causes and consequences of climate change is becoming one of our three key priorities.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations

In line with our One Coventry approach, this report also includes metrics where the contribution of partners is essential to their delivery.

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