

Report To: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 24.06.2014

Lead Member / Officer:

**Cllr Barbara Smith, Lead Member for Modernisation & Performance
Alan Smith, Head of Business Planning & Performance**

Report Author:

Nicola Kneale, Corporate Improvement Officer

Title: Corporate Plan Performance Report (Quarter 4 2013/14)

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1. This paper presents an update on the delivery of the Corporate Plan 2012-17 at the end of quarter 4 of 2013/14.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1. The council needs to understand progress of its contribution to the delivery of the Corporate Plan outcomes. Regular reporting is an essential monitoring requirement of the Corporate Plan to ensure that the council exercises its duty to improve.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 It is recommended that Members consider the report, and decide on any further actions required to respond to any performance related issues highlighted within the report.

4. Report details.

- 4.1. The appendix to this report presents a summary of each of the fourteen outcomes in the Corporate Plan. Overall, the report shows acceptable progress is being made in delivering our Corporate Plan, and we understand the reasons why some elements of the Corporate Plan still require improvement.
- 4.2. This is now within the second year of our 5-year Corporate Plan. We recognise that some areas for improvement will take longer to achieve than others, but we understand what our improvement journey should look like and this is incorporated into the analysis within the report.
- 4.3. The following clarifies some key performance exceptions to be found in the Corporate Plan for quarter 4:

4.3.1 An Economic and Community Ambition Programme Board has been developed in support of the strategy; As anticipated in the Q2 report, over the past six months much work has been done to prioritise the plan projects from the long list the Board originally developed. This means the number of priority projects has been reduced. This is a sensible and appropriate process – it is a principle of good project management that business cases are assessed according to their anticipated return on investment, and that our ability to deliver them is considered within the context of the resources available and inter-dependencies.

4.3.2 Data for the indicators relating to employment sites that are ready to be, or have been developed is presently at 0% because ‘new employment land sites’ refers to additional land allocated in the LDP. Since there have been no planning applications approved for development on any of these sites, the figure is likely to be in the same region for the next year too. It takes time for the barriers to be removed, so we’re unlikely to see a fast improvement for this indicator.

4.3.3 The volume of deficit places in our primary schools is a Priority for Improvement; however, improvement in this area relies on capital projects, which are currently progressing well. In addition, the percentage of pupil attendance in Secondary schools is also a Priority for Improvement.

4.3.4 A number of indicators relating to housing have declined, for example, the sufficient supply of affordable housing being considered a priority for improvement, as is the supply of housing land. This Outcome has been reflected as Acceptable against what we set out to achieve during the year; however, the supply of affordable housing has been identified as a Priority for Improvement in the Wales Audit Office Annual Improvement Report, p15. The Priority Action is ‘The Council should ensure that roles and responsibilities are clear for the achievement of the affordable housing objective.’

Please see Appendix for a full report of all 7 Priorities in the Corporate Plan.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

5.1. This report is about our progress in delivering the Corporate Plan. Any decisions made should contribute to the successful delivery of our Corporate Priorities.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

6.1. The Corporate Plan 2012-17 set out how much additional money the council aims to invest in each corporate priority during the next 5 years. Apart from that additional investment, it is assumed that the corporate plan can be delivered within existing budgets.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.

- 7.1. An EqIA was undertaken on the Corporate Plan and presented to Council on 09 October 2012. No further assessment is required of this report because the recommendations in this report will not have a direct impact on staff or our communities.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

- 8.1. The information necessary to produce this report comes from services, and a draft of the report was circulated to the Senior Leadership Team for their thoughts and comments.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

- 9.1. Delivery of some of the Corporate Plan objectives relies upon significant capital investment. The Plan cannot be delivered unless the required cash and budget resources are earmarked for investment in school buildings, social care, roads and the other priority areas.

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

- 10.1. There are no specific risks attached to this report. It is the role of our Corporate and Service Risk Registers to identify (and manage) the potential risk events which could lead to the council being unable to deliver its Corporate Plan.

11. Power to make the Decision

- 11.1. Performance management and monitoring is a key element of the Wales Programme for Improvement, which is underpinned by the statutory requirements of the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government "Wales" Measure 2009.