

Report to	Governance and Audit Committee
Date of meeting	June 8, 2022
Lead Member / Officer	Nicola Kneale, Joint Acting Head of Business Improvement and Modernisation
Report author	Iolo McGregor, Strategic Planning and Performance Team Leader
Title	Council Performance Self-Assessment 2021 to 2022

1. What is the report about?

This report accompanies the council's Performance Self-Assessment for 2021 to 2022, providing our end of year analysis of progress and challenges with our key performance objectives (i.e. our Corporate Plan Priorities) and in each of the seven areas of governance. The report also provides narrative on council activity in support of Equality and Diversity.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

2.1 Although piloted last year, this report is the first statutorily required document written in response to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, which requires the council to produce a Self-Assessment of its performance against its functions. It also responds to our duty around equality monitoring (under the Equality Act 2010 and Wales Measure 2011, which includes the Socio Economic Duty), and our contributions to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

2.2 Regular reporting is an essential monitoring requirement of the council's performance management framework. We monitor our performance regularly,

taking quarterly reports to Scrutiny and Cabinet meetings. Our Executive Summary, presented alongside this report, provides an evaluative statement of our progress.

- 2.3 Feedback on the content of this report, attached at appendix I, II and III, by Governance and Audit is required under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, before approval of the final documents by Council in July.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1. It is recommended that the committee reviews and approves the draft report, considering any changes required to conclusions or actions that the council intends to take.
- 3.2. Should the committee offer recommendations for change, the report must be amended before submission to Council. If a change is not adopted, the final report must explain the reason why.

4. Report details

- 4.1 The council's Corporate Plan 2017 to 2022 set the strategic direction for the council and its priorities for the five-year period. The detail about what the council intends to do each year to help deliver these priorities is set out in annual service plans. The projects have originated from Service and Programme Plans. Progress has been reported to Performance Scrutiny, Cabinet and the Senior Leadership Team through our Quarterly Performance Reports.
- 4.2 With this report, we present three documents:
- Appendix I presents our Executive Summary, which seeks to draw out the highlights of our performance against our objectives (i.e. our Corporate Priorities that are our Well-being and Equality Objectives) and the seven governance areas (prescribed by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015). The short paragraphs within this document are effectively our statement of performance against our functions, also looking ahead to the challenges that we face and areas for improvement.

- Appendix II is our familiar quarterly Performance Update Report, which is our process for ongoing self-assessment and embodies all the evidence (internal and external) and analysis that seeks to answer the questions of ‘How well are we doing’, ‘How do we know’, and ‘What and how can we do better’? This Performance Update Report presents the latest picture covering only January to March 2022, but combined with the Executive Summary and the three preceding Update Reports, the full set make-up our Self-Assessment for 2021 to 2022. Reviewing all four Performance Update Reports together will allow the reader to see improvement activity that we have identified throughout the year in support of performance.
- Appendix III is a ‘one-off’ report that seeks to summarise the performance of our Corporate Plan 2017 to 2022 over its five-year duration, now that we have reached its final year.

4.3 Within each corporate priority subsection, we continue to include Well-being and Equality sections that capture our contributions to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; and the Equality Act 2010 and Wales Measure 2011 (which includes the socio-economic duty). We also include a separate Equality and Diversity chapter, which captures corporate initiatives in support of this agenda.

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

5.1 The Performance Self-Assessment includes an evaluation of the council’s success in delivering against its corporate priorities.

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

6.1 There is no additional cost associated with this report.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?

7.1. A Well-being Impact Assessment (WIA) is not required for this report. A WIA was undertaken on the Corporate Plan itself, and was presented to County Council when the plan was approved in October 2017. Individual projects / programmes of

work within the Corporate Plan will subsequently have been individually assessed, as any new actions will be going forward.

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

8.1 The report has been developed by the Strategic Planning Team, in consultation with other council services. Feedback has already been sought on the report from the Senior Leadership Team and Cabinet. Following Governance and Audit, the report will go to Performance Scrutiny (June 9), and then on to County Council for final approval in July.

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

9.1 No statement is required with this report.

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

10.1 Failure to publish our Self-Assessment would likely result in statutory recommendations from Audit Wales, with significant implications for the reputation of the council.

11. Power to make the decision

11.1 Part 6 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (chapter 1, section 89).

11.2 Part 2 of the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 (section 13).

11.3 The Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011 (section 16).

11.4 Sections 9 and 13 of the Council's Constitution outlines Scrutiny's powers and duties with respect of governance.