

Report to	Governance and Audit Committee
Date of meeting	June 14, 2023
Lead Member / Officer	Cllr Gwyneth Ellis, Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets
Head of Service	Nicola Kneale, Interim Head of Service Corporate Support Service: Performance, Digital and Assets
Report author	Emma Horan, Planning and Performance Officer
Title	Council Performance Self-Assessment 2022 to 2023

1. What is the report about?

- 1.1. This report accompanies the council's Performance Self-Assessment for 2022 to 2023, providing our end of year analysis of progress and challenges with our key performance objectives (i.e. our Corporate Plan themes), and for the first time presents data against the new Corporate Plan's performance management framework.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 Regular reporting is an essential monitoring requirement of the council's performance management framework and our statutory duties in relation to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, the Equality Act 2010 and Wales Measure 2011, and our contributions to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 2.2 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 is sought on the content of the draft reports, attached at appendix I and II, before we take the reports through committees and seek approval of the final documents by Council in July.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1. Governance and Audit Committee considers the reports, and agrees any further actions required to respond to any performance related issues highlighted within them.

4. Report details

- 4.1 With this report, we present two documents. Appendix I presents our Executive Summary, which seeks to draw out the highlights of our performance against our objectives (i.e. our Corporate Plan themes that are also our Well-being and Equality Objectives) and the seven governance areas prescribed in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021. 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. We have introduced a new section within this report called 'Overall, how well are we doing?'. This section highlights areas we should focus on to ensure performance can be sustained and where needed, improved.
- 4.2 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 January to March 2023, and is the first performance report for our new Corporate Plan performance management framework. The new Corporate Plan and associated performance management framework is significantly larger than our last, but we have managed to keep the report to the same size as our previous reports. Services and the Strategic Planning Team have done a great deal of work to collate the data that we have available, but we acknowledge that there are some gaps to further investigate and areas for development. These areas are highlighted and discussed within the reports. Our next performance report for April to June, is likely to present a more complete picture of performance. This Performance Update Report for January to March, when combined with the Executive Summary and the three preceding Update Reports, makes up our Self-Assessment for 2022 to 2023.

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.

- 4.3 From our October to December report to these present reports, we included Well-being and Equality sections that capture our contributions to the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; the Equality Act 2010, and subsequent Wales Regulations 2011 and 2021 (which includes the socio-economic duty). We also include an update on Equality and Diversity, which captures corporate initiatives in support of this agenda.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Plan 2022 to 2027: The Denbighshire We Want?

- 5.1 The Performance Self-Assessment includes an evaluation of the council's success in delivering against its Corporate Plan themes.

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 2022. New projects / programmes of work within the Corporate Plan will be individually assessed, as any new actions will be going forward.

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

- 8.1. The reports have 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, Performance Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet at Cabinet Briefing. Further consultation will take place with Cabinet prior to being submitted to County Council for approval on July 4, 2023.

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.

10.2 The risk of poor performance being reported out of context, impacting on our reputation. On this basis, we have already shared the draft report with the Communications Team.

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); and The Equality Act (Authorities subject to the Socio-economic Inequality Duty) (Wales) Regulations 2021.