

**CITY AND COUNTY OF CARDIFF
DINAS A SIR CAERDYDD**

**POLICY REVIEW & PERFORMANCE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

13 September 2016

**WELSH GOVERNMENT “NATIONAL STRATEGIC INDICATOR” AND DATA
UNIT WALES “PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURE” RESULTS 2015/16**

Reason for this Report

1. To provide an opportunity for the Committee to consider the results of the National Performance Indicators for Wales 2015/16.

Background

2. Each year, local authorities are required to collect and report the results of a range of nationally set Performance Indicators. There are 41 National Indicators for 2015/16 made up of:
 - National Strategic Indicators (NSIs) - set by Welsh Government; and
 - Public Accountability Measures (PAMs) – set by all local authorities and reported to Data Unit Wales
3. The Indicators were originally devised to enable the Welsh Government and local authorities in Wales to compare performance across a number of key areas, including:

- Social Care
- Housing
- Planning and Regulatory Services
- Education
- Environment & Transport
- Leisure & Culture

4. The Indicators are collected annually by all local authorities in Wales, and submitted to the Welsh Government and Data Unit Wales for publication (scheduled for publication in September 2016). Each of the Indicators is compared across all local authorities in Wales.

5. In July 2016, the Welsh Government stated that it was discontinuing the NSI data collection, making the 2015/16 data the last year to be reported. It concluded that the indicators were largely duplicated, overlapped or have been superseded by performance data requirements set out in other legislation or performance frameworks, such as;
 - Section 145 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014;
 - School Performance and Absence Targets (Wales) Regulations 2011;
 - Non-statutory Welsh Public Libraries Standards;
 - WasteDataFlow.

6. Local authorities will continue to collect (through the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009) the Public Accountability Measures (PAMs) for 2016/17.

7. In addition, the programme of Local Government Reform and the introduction of the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, mean that local authority performance frameworks are changing to allow local authorities to focus on the job of working more effectively to deliver the well being goals.

2015/16 Performance Indicator Results

8. Attached as **Appendix A**, are the results of the 2015/16 National Performance Indicators for Cardiff. Some of the key messages arising from the results include:

- An improvement in 67.5% (27 / 40¹ indicators) compared to 42.9% in 2014-15
- Maintained performance in 2.5% (1 / 40 indicators) compared to 4.8% in 2014-15
- A decline in 30.0% (12 / 40 indicators) compared to 52.4% in 2014-15

9. In addition, Appendix A shows Cardiff's results against the Wales average, and for 2015/16, the Council ranks 14th when compared to the other 21 Councils in Wales, which is an improvement from 21st place in 2014/15.

10. Appendix A details the following for each indicator:

- The Indicator description and reference
- Narrative about the result for 2015/16
- Results for 2014/15 and 2015/16
- Wales Average for 2014/15 and 2015/16
- Quarter – quartile performance for the authority (Quarter 1 = Upper Quarter; 4 = Lower Quarter)
- Rank against other local authorities in Wales

11. On considering the results of the Performance Indicators, Members are asked to be mindful of the fact that performance indicators alone do not give the full picture of the Council's performance. Although the indicators provide an insight into performance across a selection of specific services, they do not explain why those differences have arisen. However, the results can trigger further investigations into the causes of differences or of changes in performance.

¹ CAM/037 has been removed from the summary of performance nationally as this indicator was only introduced in 2015-16 and therefore has no historical data

Way Forward

12. Joseph Reay, Head of Performance & Partnerships will be in attendance to present the results of the National Performance Indicators. Also in attendance will be Councillor Graham Hinchey, Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Performance; Paul Orders, Chief Executive; and Christine Salter, Corporate Director of Resources.

Legal Implications

13. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances

Financial Implications

14. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented

with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is recommended to:

- (i) note the results of the 2015/16 National Performance Indicators for Wales;
- (ii) refer the results of relevant performance indicators to the appropriate Scrutiny Committee, drawing attention to those results that have shown improvements or decline in performance; and
- (iii) request that a comparison exercise of indicators of other similar authorities be undertaken, and reported to a future meeting of this Scrutiny Committee.

David Marr

Interim Monitoring Officer

7 September 2016