

WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL CABINET

12TH MARCH 2024

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CABINET MEMBER FOR STRATEGY -
COUNCILLOR JONATHAN NUNN

Report Title	Corporate Plan Performance Report – 2023-24 Q3
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List of Approvers

Monitoring Officer	Sarah Hall	22/02/2024
Chief Finance Officer (S.151)	Martin Henry	22/02/2024
Other Director	Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive and All Directors via EPB.	19/02/2024
Head of Communications	Becky Hutson	22/02/2024

List of Appendices

Appendix A – Corporate Plan Report – 2023-24 Q3

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The attached appendix provides an update for the third quarter of 2023-24 to Cabinet on West Northamptonshire Council's (WNC) performance metrics for the current year and set against the priorities set out in the Corporate Plan.

2. Executive Summary

- 1.2. This report provides an overview of performance for West Northamptonshire Council for the period of October to December 2023 (Quarter three).

- 1.3. The performance indicators included in the report have been subject to review, challenge and approval by both the Cabinet and the Executive Leadership Team with our aim being to create a meaningful dashboard of measures that provide members and officers with good insight into the council's performance.
- 1.4. The performance indicator changes in this year's report reflect changes implemented by government departments in the past 12 months which impact a number of regulatory/ inspection regimes. These change how we are inspected as well as create changes in data collection frameworks. In some cases these have entirely changed some of the national metrics that are collected and that local Authorities will report against, this also causes challenges for us in being able to provide trend information for some indicators.
- 1.5. There have been many changes to teams, services and systems as part of creating the new council and therefore some indicators will need to be developed in order to provide a complete unitary view and move away from the old district and borough boundaries. This is also exacerbated where we have different delivery vehicles or contracts for services, such as Northamptonshire Children's Trust or Public Health contractual services that has the opposite effect of not being able to provide a West Northamptonshire only version of performance.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:
 - a) Note the content of the appendix detailing performance against the metrics covering the second quarter of 2023-24

4. Reason for Recommendations

- To ensure appropriate monitoring and oversight of the Council's performance against the metrics set is undertaken.

5. Report Background

- 5.1 It is important that the Council is clear and transparent on its performance and that there are clear action plans where our performance falls below target or that of other benchmark authorities.
- 5.2 The council monitors performance across all services areas and against hundreds of national and contract metrics to ensure that services are performing well and identified priorities are monitored and delivered against. These are monitored within services and reported in line with national cycles or as required to Overview and Scrutiny, and other committees.
- 5.3 This performance report provides an overall high-level summary of the key metrics that underpin our stated corporate priorities and sets out proposed metrics that we will be developing and monitoring for this quarterly report in addition to the wider overall performance framework we have in place.

6. Issues and Choices

- 6.1 This is a report for information and discussion and therefore there are no choices to be made, as outlined in section 6.4, consultation and discussion around metrics has occurred with Cabinet members in the leadup to this report.

7. Implications

7.1 Resources and Financial

- 7.1.1 There are no direct financial implications from the report. However, services need to consider the implications of under- or over-performance and identify what resources may need to be reallocated to address these.
- 7.1.2 Financial indicators included within the performance report can be found in greater detail within the finance reports that are presented to Cabinet.

7.2 Legal

- 7.2.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from the proposals.

7.3 Risk

- 7.3.1 There are no significant risks arising from the proposed recommendations in this report.

7.4 Consultation and Communications

- 7.4.1 The metrics included in this report have been chosen based upon the priorities identified within the Corporate Plan and in consultation with members of Cabinet and senior officers. The Corporate Plan priorities and wider service objectives are underpinned by the Council's communications and consultation activities to keep the public, staff and stakeholders informed and engaged on what the council is doing and how it is performing. The inclusion of additional performance metrics further builds on the Council's communications principles of transparency and openness to inform and engage residents on its corporate priorities, objectives and outcomes.

7.5 Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

- 7.5.1 Relevant performance data will be provided to Overview and Scrutiny Committees as required to support their agreed work plans.

7.6 Climate Impact

- 7.6.1 There are no direct implications on climate/environmental impact from this report, it does however provide an update on the delivery of the corporate plan which includes commitments

to be Net Zero by 2030. This quarterly report will provide updates on the council's progress to this aim as appropriate.

7.7 **Community Impact**

7.7.1 Managing our performance is key to ensuring we are making a positive impact on our communities, celebrating our successes, and addressing our challenges.

8. **Background Papers**

8.1 The West Northamptonshire Council Corporate Plan 2021-25 provides the basis for the data and project updates that are provided within this quarterly report. The corporate plan can be found on our website - [Corporate Plan | West Northamptonshire Council \(westnorthants.gov.uk\)](https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/corporate-plan)