

**Report of Director of Environment and Housing and Assistant Chief Executive  
(Citizens and Communities)**

**Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board**

**Date: 20 April 2015**

**Subject: Quarterly Performance Report**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

Last year the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board agreed revised arrangements for reporting performance across its remit. This includes receiving on an alternate basis a detailed report on performance in areas relating to the 'Stronger' and 'Safer' communities respectively – these detailed reports are to be provided in quarters 1 and 2. It also allows the Director / Assistant Chief Executive an opportunity to highlight good performance as well as identify any emerging areas of concern or risks. This report for quarter 3 provides information on both Safer and Stronger elements of the Board's remit.

**Recommendations**

Members are invited to consider the quarterly report of the Director of Environment and Housing and the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities) relating to the Safer and Stronger elements of the Board's remit.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Board with an update from the Director of Environment and Housing and the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities), highlighting areas of good performance as well as challenges, and emerging areas of concern or risks. It also provides an opportunity for the Board to consider some of the emerging developments relating to the Safer and Stronger aspects of the Board's remit.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 This report takes account of the changing corporate reporting arrangements, and the agreed arrangements for providing performance information to Scrutiny Boards, as well as the specific requirements agreed by this Board.

## **3 Main issues**

### **3.1 Citizens and Communities**

A detailed account of the current position can be found at Appendix 1. Briefly the main areas covered are:

- 3.1.1 The Communities Board has met 4 times since its inception in January 2014. The Board has had some positive discussions on community committees and community hubs and is currently working to establish a realistic and deliverable forward work plan. In order to assist this conversations have taken place with each Board member, and a separate report to Scrutiny outlines the outcome of these.
- 3.1.2 During 2014 the Board has been developing the Partners Project which is a practical expression of what the Board is trying to achieve, and will provide learning for future community empowerment and engagement.
- 3.1.3 In addition work has continued in all other areas (as outlined in Appendix 1) including:
- Supporting and promoting community committees.
  - Poverty Truth Challenge
  - Migration

### **3.2 Environment & Housing**

- 3.2.1 A highlight report is given as Appendix 2 to this report; this contains quarter 3 data, or latest available data where we are able to provide it.
- 3.2.2 Areas of performance to highlight include:
- Domestic Burglary which continues to show year on year improvement in the number of recorded offences. However, there has been an increase in this number since the last quarter and Leeds has seen an increase in its rate from 13 to 14 (per 1,000 households). There has been a change in

recording procedure, with multiple offences recorded where a shared property is burgled. This has led to some increases in reported crime levels, especially in areas with high student or shared accommodation.

- Anti-social Behaviour – In the 12 months to the end of December 2014, there were 5,277 new enquiries allocated to LASBT, an 11.9% (+605) increase on the previous 12 month period. 1,177 new enquiries were received in quarter 3 which is a 13.1% increase on the same period for 2013/14. The greatest volume of enquiries is noise nuisance, accounting for over 57% of all ASB reports. The volume of noise reports has been consistently high since the integration of the daytime service and out of hours (OOH) noise nuisance into LASBT.
- Domestic Violence has shown a slight decrease of 0.1% in the prevalence of repeat victimisation from the previous period (down to 35.2% as of December 2014). Actual reported incidents have increased in the last 12 months to the end of December 2014, by 5.7% (770 more offences). To support the domestic violence strategy, the service has started to monitor repeat suspect rates and will use information to influence delivery. In the 12 months to December 2014 the 12 month rolling repeat suspect rate stood at 16.0% (2,282 repeat suspects) – a 0.2% decrease from the previous quarter.
- Drugs and Alcohol programmes are continuing to deliver improved levels of successful completions against previous years' performance. Unfortunately this quarter we are only able to produce data up to November 2014 due to issues with NDTMS (National Drug Treatment Monitoring System) data.
- Missed bins figures are showing continued improvement against last year's figures and the overall trend is positive. Factors such as the phase 1 introduction of in-cab technology and a change to a four-area crew supervision pattern have been reported as having a positive impact.
- Recycling YTD figures (December 2014) are showing a slight reduction of 0.7% than for the same period last year despite kerbside recycling volumes being up by 6.7% (adding 1.4% to the NI recycling performance). This overall slight reduction is partially attributed to AWM recycling less from their plant and doing more energy recovery than recycling.
- Tonnage to landfill which although not currently on target, is showing slightly reduced YTD (December 2014) figures than for the same period last year. Kerbside collected black bin waste is showing a reduction of 3,529t for the same period.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 4.1.1 This is a performance report for the Board's information and as such there is no need for wider consultation. If the Board determines that any performance area requires further investigation, then it may be decided that the views of interested parties should be sought or that existing information reflecting the views of customers and others stakeholders should be provided to the Board.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

- 4.2.1 This is not a decision-making report and as such there is no need for an EIA screening document to be completed.

The business of the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board is to consider the extent to which the corresponding Partnership Boards are delivering City Priorities and also to review and challenge the Council's own performance in relation to the Safer/Stronger agenda in particular as outlined in the Best Council Plan 2013-17. As part of this role, the Scrutiny Board will consider the extent to which the relevant partnership boards and directorates are addressing cross-cutting issues, including equality and diversity and cohesion and integration. This will be taken into account when determining the performance information the Scrutiny Board may require. Specifically, the Board's remit also includes scrutiny of cohesion and integration matters under the Stronger Communities element of its work.

### **4.3 Council policies and City Priorities**

- 4.3.1 The performance information received by the Board allows it to assess and challenge performance in relation to the delivery of specific city priorities and priorities within the Best Council Business Plan 2013-17.

### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

- 4.4.1 The Board has specifically asked that the performance information provided is based on information that is already available, and has determined that it will only require more detailed reports where it wants to examine performance areas in more depth, thereby ensuring that reporting arrangements remain efficient and effective.

### **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

- 4.5.1 The report is provided within the context of the formal role of Scrutiny Boards within the Council's constitution. There is no decision being made and there is therefore no call-in requirement.

## **4.6 Risk Management**

- 4.6.1 The provision of performance information to the Board is designed to enable the Board to fulfil its role effectively and as such will minimise the risks of non-delivery of City Priorities and Best Council Business Plan Priorities. Care is being taken to make use of existing data rather than create an additional reporting burden.

## **5 Conclusions**

- 5.1 The Communities Board continues to have positive discussions and is working to establish a forward work plan. In addition work has continued in all other areas including supporting and promoting community committees, Poverty Truth Challenge and migration.
- 5.2 Performance across the portfolio of the Board's remit is generally good and holding well or improving, although there are continued challenges around recycling and avoiding waste going to landfill. Leeds's burglary rate has seen a 1% increase although this is in the context of new recording procedures, with multiple offences recorded where a shared property is burgled.

## **6 Recommendations**

- 6.1 Members are invited to consider the quarterly report of the Director of Environment and Housing and the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities) relating to the Safer and Stronger elements of the Board's remit.

## **7 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

None

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.