

## Executive Board 8<sup>th</sup> February 2008 - Addendum

### Comprehensive Performance Assessment – 2007 Result

Leeds City Council has been judged to be a **Four Star Council** that is **'improving well'** in the 2007 CPA. This represents a stepped improvement in score from last year, with performance improving from 3 to 4 Stars and Direction of Travel moving from 'improving adequately' to 'improving well'. This overall judgement makes Leeds City Council one of the top performing Councils in the country.

The improved star rating can be directly attributed to the improvement of the Culture score from 2 to 3. However, it is very important to note that there have been improvements in other areas which have resulted in a strengthening and consolidation of our position and significant improvements in outcomes for local people. All our other service block areas maintained a score of 3, but this masks how, in nearly all cases our position was strengthened. For example, our Use of Resources assessment acknowledged some notable achievements including our ethical audit and partnership governance work and our service score for the Housing has improved with more PIs in the higher performance thresholds.

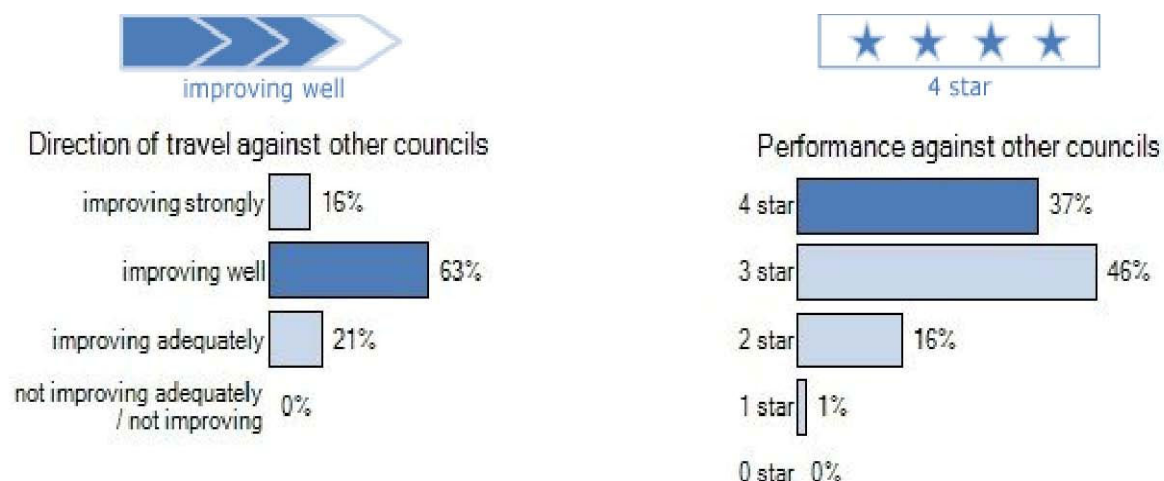
The improvement in the majority of our key PIs over the last year, coupled with the numerous examples of where we have delivered very tangible improvements for local people, are reflected in our improved Direction of Travel (DoT) judgement.

Below is the Leeds City Council CPA scorecard for 2007.

#### Leeds City Council

#### Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) scorecard 2007 Overall performance for this Council

This is a council that is **improving well** and demonstrating a **4 star** overall performance.



We reached this overall rating by looking at:

- What progress Leeds City Council has made in the last year – direction of travel

- How Leeds City Council manages its finances and provides value for money – use of resources
- How Leeds City Council's main services perform – service performance
- How Leeds City Council is run – corporate assessment

Service assessments, use of resources and corporate assessments are scored on the Local Services Inspectorate Forum scale:

- 1 = Inadequate performance – below minimum requirements
- 2 = Adequate performance – only at minimum requirements
- 3 = Performing well – consistently above minimum requirements
- 4 = Performing strongly – well above minimum requirements

### **Direction of travel The progress Leeds City Council has made in the last year**

<b>Direction of travel</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
This assessment indicates the progress being made, or otherwise, to achieve improvement.	improving well	improving adequately	<b>improving well</b>

The following summary has been provided to support the 2007 direction of travel assessment:

Leeds City Council is improving well. It has made good progress in priority areas. It achieved quality of life improvements for adults in vulnerable circumstances and provided them with good access to services when needed. Education results improved at all key stages. The Council engages well with young people who are traditionally hard to reach although progress in reducing teen pregnancy is slow. People expressed increased satisfaction with services for their communities, for example street cleaning and community safety. Planning, a weaker service, showed some improvement. The Council contributed well to Leeds as a place to live. Overall crime levels fell, road safety got better and environmental performance improved. Communities also benefited from improving housing conditions and neighbourhood improvement. The Council is actively promoting the city and the regional economy but still needs to do more to raise the life prospects for people in the most deprived communities. The Council continues to invest in capacity to drive improvement. Its plans are robust; finances are sound, council tax is relatively low, customer access and value for money are good. It works well with partners to support its strategy in priority areas.

### **Use of resources How Leeds City Council manages its finances and provides value for money**

<b>Use of resources</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
We have assessed how well the Council manages its finances and provides value for money.	3	3	<b>3</b>

This use of resources judgement is drawn from five individual judgements provided by the Council's appointed auditor:

<b>Auditor judgements</b>	<b>2007</b>
Financial reporting	<b>3</b>
Financial management	<b>3</b>
Financial standing	<b>3</b>
Internal control	<b>3</b>
Value for money	<b>3</b>

## **Service performance**

### **How Leeds City Council's main services perform**

<b>Service area</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Benefits</b> - The Council's performance in providing housing and council tax benefit services. The assessment is made by the Benefit Fraud Inspectorate and is based primarily on achievement against the 2005 housing benefits/council tax benefits performance standards.	3	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Children and young people</b> - The Council's performance in providing children's services, such as children's education and social care. The joint assessment is made by the Commission for Social Care Inspection and Ofsted following a review of the Council's overall performance and key indicators.	3	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Culture</b> - The Council's performance in services, such as libraries and leisure, as assessed by the Audit Commission.	4	2	<b>3</b>
<b>Environment</b> - The Council's performance in services, such as transport, planning and waste, as assessed by the Audit Commission.	3	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Housing</b> - The Council's performance in community housing and, where applicable, housing management services, as assessed by the Audit Commission.	3	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Social care (adults)</b> - The Council's performance in adult social care services. The assessment is made by the Commission for Social Care Inspection following a review of the Council's overall performance and key indicators.	3	3	<b>3</b>

## **Corporate Assessment**

### **How Leeds City Council is run**

<b>Corporate assessment</b>	<b>2007</b>
In assessing how the Council is run, the Commission considers what the Council, together with its partners, is trying to achieve; what the capacity of the Council, including its work with partners, is to deliver what it is trying to achieve; and what has been achieved?	<b>3</b>

#### **Score used is from the 2005 corporate assessment.**

The way we carried out corporate assessments changed from 2005 onwards. Until 2008, when all councils will have been assessed using the new-style corporate assessment, the CPA category will be based on either its new corporate assessment score or the previous one if that is higher.

Please visit the Audit Commission website ([www.audit-commission.gov.uk](http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk)) for the full version of this scorecard.