

Report of Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access and Performance)

Report to Sustainable Economy and Culture Scrutiny Board

Date: 20th December 2012

Subject: 2012/13 Q2 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input 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

1. This report provides a summary of performance against the strategic priorities for the council and city relevant to the Sustainable Economy and Culture Scrutiny Board.

Recommendations

2. Members are recommended to
 - Note the Q2 performance information and the issues which have been highlighted and consider if they wish to undertake further scrutiny work to support improvement over the coming year in any of these areas.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report presents to Scrutiny a summary of the quarter two performance data for 2012-13 which provides an update on progress in delivering the relevant priorities in the Council Business Plan 2011-15 and City Priority Plan 2011-15.

2 Background information

- 2.1 The City Priority Plan 2011 to 2015 is the city-wide partnership plan which sets out the key outcomes and priorities to be delivered by the council and its partners. There are 21 priorities which are split across the 5 strategic partnerships who are responsible for ensuring the delivery of these agreed priorities.

- 2.2 The Council Business Plan 2011 to 2015 sets out the priorities for the council - it has two elements - five cross council priorities aligned to the council's values and a set of directorate priorities and targets.
- 2.3 Members will note that the delivery of City Priority Plan priorities are shared with partners across the city while the Council Business Plan sets out the Council's contribution to these shared priorities. This report provides an overview of the performance relating to both plans enabling the Scrutiny Board to directly challenge the council's performance as well as seeking to influence and challenge partners contributions through existing partnership arrangements.
- 2.4 This report includes 2 appendices:
- Appendix 1 – Performance Reports for the City Priority Plan Priorities relevant to the board
 - Appendix 2 – Directorate Priorities and Indicators relevant to the Board
- 2.5 Each quarter every priority within the City Priority Plans and Council Business Plan are rated either green, amber or red according to overall progress against their achievement. These are allocated as follows:
- Green - progress is as planned/expected over the last 3 months. All, or most, of the relevant actions/activities are on track and most targets are being met for the aligned performance measures.
 - Amber - positive progress is being made but not as much as planned/expected. Only some of the relevant actions/activities are on track. Only some of targets are being met for the aligned performance measures.
 - Red -progress is not being made as planned/expected. Few of the relevant actions/activities are on track. Few of the targets are being met for the aligned performance measures.
- A review of this process is currently underway to ensure that all priorities are rated in a consistent manner.
- In addition, performance indicators within the Council Business Plan are also rated green, amber or red according to progress against the target laid out in the plan.

3 Main issues

Quarter 2 Performance Summary

City Priority Plan

- 3.1 There are 3 priorities in the City Priority Plan relevant to Sustainable Economy and Culture Board. At Quarter 2 two are assessed as green and one as amber.
- 3.2 The amber priority is:-
- Driving the sustainable growth of the Leeds economy to support the creation of new jobs and skills.

3.2.1 Infrastructure/Economic Growth: In terms of supporting the economic growth of the city there are a number of areas of positive progress including the completion of

the A65 Bus Scheme on time and on budget; Arena construction continues to be on track, Trinity has an agreed opening date (21/3/13), City Deal formally announced in July, Sovereign Street development (Sovereign Square green space and the KPMG Office HQ) progressed to planning approval, business confidence is improving, an 8% increase in apprenticeships starts in the past year and the Leeds Innovation Health Hub partnership has been established. However, challenges remain in securing improved outcomes for the people of Leeds in terms of jobs, improved skills, and wider economic benefits. The employment rate is 67.5% and is down 1.2 percentage points compared to last year; the Core Cities employment rate has followed a similar pattern, but Leeds is still 5.3% above the average Core Cities rate of 62.2%. Youth employment (16-24) is 45.7% and is down 4.1 percentage points compared to last year. The economic recovery remains fragile and recent survey data shows that 55% of Leeds' residents think jobs are hard to find.

3.3 Highlights from the two green priorities include:

- 3.3.1 **Olympics/Paralympics:** the Council supported a successful programme of sporting and cultural events around the Olympics and Paralympics including hosting over 300 Olympic athletes and officials from China, Netherlands and Sweden and a Paralympic team from Canada for their pre-Games training camps. The estimated economic value from training camps is £350,000, the profile of the city was raised - in particular due to the success of the 23 Leeds Olympic and Paralympic athletes who between them won 11 medals (5 of these gold) - and work is on-going to ensure a longer-term legacy in terms of sporting participation. To support this, in September Executive Board approved a £100,000 annual Olympic Legacy Fund
- 3.3.2 **Connectivity and Low Carbon:** government funding has been made available to ensure the progress of key projects. Bradford and Leeds received £14.4 million to help provide businesses with broadband speeds of up to 100Mbps and high speed wireless Internet access. Additionally, the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) have made £2.59m available to Leeds City Region to spend on a 'Green Deal Go Early' project, as part of the low carbon element of the City Deal

Council Business Plan

- 3.4 **Directorate Priorities and Indicators** – there are currently 9 directorate priorities relevant to the Board and 4 are assessed as green and 5 are amber. The amber priorities are:
- Market and promote the city
 - Produce a new Local Development Framework and Core Strategy
 - Support people to improve skills and move into jobs
 - Develop the council's cultural events and facilities including changes to sport centres and Libraries
 - Reduce carbon emissions and water usage in council buildings
- 3.5 In terms of performance indicators 5 are green, 4 are amber and 4 are Red indicators are:
- Number of enquiries received from businesses seeking to locate in Leeds – 475 (annual target – 1,400). The level of total enquiries has been falling

for a number of years due to a fall in start up enquiries reflecting reduced confidence in the economy; based on the results of Q1 and Q2 this fall is set to continue. The service is keen to develop more accurate measures of performance in encouraging businesses to relocate to Leeds and this will be part of its work with Leeds and Partners; the new agency created by bringing together inward investment and tourism services from Leeds City Council and Marketing Leeds.

- Increase percentage of major planning applications that are completed on time – 54.65% (Target 75%). The processing of major planning applications has not met the target again this quarter, *mainly because of the impact of the economic situation which has led to delays in applicants completing legal agreements (s106) and a slowing in the negotiations on detailed proposals to achieve high quality schemes causing planning applications to go 'out of time'*. The overall level of performance in Leeds has been less than the decline at national level (8.5% in Leeds compared with 13.6% nationally between 2010\11 and 2011\12). During the quarter, we have continued to reduce the number of out of date applications from 49 to 39 (a 20.4% improvement) and there is a targeted action plan to reduce this further and improve decisions made in time during the remainder of the year. A City Plans Panel has been established, to deal with those applications with major significance for the City. The determination of residential planning applications is a crucial component of obtaining New Homes Bonus for the Council (which has increased from £2.7m in 2011\12 to £5.4m in 2012\13).
- Maintain the level of use of libraries (including for example book lending and e-lending) – 1,445,974 (Annual target – 3,079,309). Despite the continued red rating, Q2 has seen an increase of approx 5.56% on the previous quarter's result; it is unlikely, however, that the year end target can be met. Since it was set, there has been a decline in library book lending in Leeds which reflects a national trend, although Leeds has shown a degree of resilience and has been affected to a lesser extent than the majority of other Core Cities. The service is working to understand the cause of this decline, which they believe may be due to a combination of factors including the changing use of libraries, the effect of events such as the Jubilee and the Olympics and Paralympics, and a reduction in the number of new books available following a reduction in the bookfund. Visitor numbers and satisfaction remain high, despite the reduction in book lending. The service will continue to work with communities to better understand their needs, to investigate the effect of major events on borrowing and to work with other Core Cities to gain a better understanding of, and response to, the cause of the national decline. In light of the trend, the service has proposed a revision of its target to 2,800,000, reflecting the direction of travel for the current year
- Reduce our energy and water bills - £3,040,849 (Annual Target – £8,377,220). Despite consumption of gas and electricity continuing to fall at quarter 2, LCC are projected to overspend on energy costs by over £800k. This is primarily due to the increase in energy costs generally, but the unseasonably cold weather has been a contributory factor, as has uncertainty over estimated billing which should be resolved once all sites are on board with providing actual readings. Work continues on the TEAM

software which will provide a 'live' and more accurate picture of performance.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 This is an information report and as such does not need to be consulted on with the public. However all performance information is published on the council's and Leeds Initiative websites and is available to the public.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 This is an information report and not a decision so due regard is not relevant. However, this report does include an update on equality issues as they relate to the various priorities.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 This report provides an update on progress in delivering the council and city priorities in line with the council's performance management framework.

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 There are no specific resource implications from this report.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 All performance information is publicly available and is published on the council and Leeds Initiative websites. This report is an information update providing Scrutiny with a summary of performance for the strategic priorities within its remit and as such is not subject to call in.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 The Performance Report Cards include an update of the key risks and challenges for each of the priorities. This is supported by a comprehensive risk management process in the Council to monitor and manage key risks. These processes also link closely with performance management.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 This report provides a summary of performance against the strategic priorities for the council and city related to Sustainable Economy and Culture Scrutiny Board.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 Members are recommended to:

- Note the Q2 performance information and the issues which have been highlighted and consider if they wish to undertake further scrutiny work to support improvement over the coming year in any of these areas.

7 Background documents¹

7.1 City Priority Plan 2011 to 2015

7.2 Council Business Plan 2011 to 2015

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.