

# Environment & Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4 October 2018

## Quarter One 2018/19 Performance Management Report



---

### Report of Corporate Management Team Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and Partnerships Councillor Simon Henig, Leader of the Council

---

#### Purpose of the Report

- 1 To present progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the council's corporate performance framework for the Altogether Greener priority theme for the first quarter of the 2018/19 financial year.

#### Summary

- 2 Environmental cleanliness levels remain good although fly-tipping remains an issue, the number of recorded incidents has increased again this quarter. The council continues to use its enforcement powers and will actively investigate all reported fly-tips.

#### Performance Reporting Arrangements for 2018/19

- 3 Our performance management framework provides us with a valuable insight into the extent to which we are achieving our objectives and how effectively the council and its partners are meeting the needs of our residents. It enables us to regularly assess, report on and scrutinise performance to support the continuous improvement of our services.
- 4 It brings together key planning, monitoring and evaluation processes through an integrated suite of documents, including the Sustainable Community Strategy, Council Plan, Service Plans and the Medium Term Financial Plan, and demonstrates the contribution made at various levels of the organisation to our priority themes.
- 5 Altogether Greener is one of six priority themes that forms the basis of our performance management framework. This report sets out the key messages relating to this priority theme structured around the following three areas of focus:
  - How clean and tidy is my local environment?
  - Are we reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change?
  - How effective and sustainable is our collection and disposal of waste?

## **Overview of performance**

- 6 Eight indicators support this priority theme, six were updated during quarter one. The remaining indicators, both of which relate to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, will be available and reported at quarter two.
- 7 One indicator, percentage of household waste that is reused, recycled or composted, which although showed improved performance was below the national average.
- 8 A comprehensive table of all performance data is attached as Appendix 2.

## ALTOGETHER GREENER

1. How clean and tidy is my local environment?
2. Are we reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change?
3. How effective and sustainable is our collection and disposal of waste?

### Refuse and Recycling 2017/18

 **96.6%** municipal waste diverted from landfill, above target ✓

 **40.1%** household waste re-used, recycled or composted ↑



- DCC continues to work with partners to reduce single use plastics (SUP).
- 'Early wins' include: ceasing the use of plastic confetti within DCC pantomimes and plastic bottle recycling provision at sports events.
- Details from the SUP working group will be presented to Scrutiny in November.

#### Waste Permits

Are now available electronically, emailed to customer with a QR code for scanning at HWRC.



### Fly-tipping (Jul 17-Jun 18)

**7,941** incidents recorded, 324 more than last quarter (+4.3%)

**Household waste** accounts for 62% of this increase

**Actions taken during the quarter include:**

- 22 cameras deployed with 4 incidents caught on CCTV
- 3 stop and search operations
- 14 duty of care warning letters, 8 producers issued
- 466 incidents were further investigated
- 9 PACE interview and 1 prosecution
- 5 FPNs issued for fly-tipping offences.



### Environmental Cleanliness

 **4.33%** litter, increase on last year (3.56%) ↑

 **12.32%** detritus, slight increase on last year (12.12%) ↑

 **0.56%** dog fouling, decrease on last year (0.96%) ↓



#### Green Flags

- 12 of our parks and cemeteries have been awarded the prestigious Green Flag environmental award.
- Blackhill and Consett Park also achieved a Green Heritage Award.

### Big Spring Clean 2018

- 272 litter picks
- 4,131 volunteers
- 5,417 volunteer hours
- 4,123 bags of litter collected

### Climate Change

Worked with 29 businesses during the quarter, awarded £27,659 in grants.



## **How clean and tidy is my local environment?**

- 9 All three indicators that support this area were updated during quarter one. All indicators relate to the LEQS Pro survey and report the percentage of relevant land and highways assessed as having deposits of litter, detritus or dog fouling that fall below an acceptable level.
- 10 We carried out the first tranche of the LEQS Pro survey during the spring and results show that although performance in relation to dog fouling has improved in comparison to first tranche results of 2017/18, litter and detritus have deteriorated but this is only marginal (especially in relation to detritus), and is not a cause for concern.
- 11 Throughout quarter one, a number of initiatives / projects were undertaken to enhance the local environment including:
- The Big Spring Clean (19 February to 15 April). Residents, schools, community groups and businesses came together and carried out litter picks to make a difference to their local environment: 272 litter picks, involving 4,131 people contributing 5,417 volunteer hours resulted in the collection of 4,123 bags of litter.
  - Operation Spruce Up visited Gilesgate, Pelton, Tow Law and Shildon. Trimdon Grange, Annfield Plain, Cockfield and Consett will follow later in 2018. The award winning scheme works in partnership with local groups and activity can include road and pavement cleansing, removal of graffiti, litter clearance, replacing of shrub beds, repair of street furniture and environmental education.
  - We are leading on the entries of Chester-le-Street and Durham City in the Northumbria in Bloom finals and are supporting town and parish council led entries into the competition. Durham is also a finalist in the “small cities” category of the Britain in Bloom awards. We are also promoting the RHS It’s your Neighbourhood campaign which provides an opportunity for community groups to get involved in Northumbria in Bloom and Britain in Bloom competitions.

## **Are we reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change?**

- 12 Neither of the two indicators that support this area have been updated during quarter one. Updates for both indicators will be provided at quarter two.
- 13 The Business Energy Efficiency Project has continued to work with 29 small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) through the European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) Low Carbon programme. During quarter one, we gave

grants to four SMEs for £27,659 for energy efficiency improvement, bringing the total to around 150 SME supported in County Durham.

- 14 The council continues to make progress on a range of carbon saving projects across the council's building portfolio, helping not only to reduce carbon emissions, but also saving money and improving the internal environment. Improvement has recently been made to help improve the efficiency and comfort levels of Peterlee Day Centre.

## **How effective and sustainable is our collection and disposal of waste?**

- 15 All three indicators that support this area were updated during quarter one.
- 16 The number of fly-tipping incidents has deteriorated since the same period last year. During quarter one, we recorded 2,158 fly-tipping incidents, a 16% increase compared to the same quarter last year. Household waste accounted for 62% of this increase, most of which occurred in April. Further investigation is to be undertaken to understand in greater detail the causes of this increase and identify action required in response.
- 17 A number of actions / initiatives were carried out during quarter one, including:
- 22 cameras were deployed with four incidents captured on CCTV;
  - Three 'stop and search' operations were carried out, resulting in 14 duty of care warning letters; eight producers and one fixed penalty notice being issued;
  - Further investigations were carried out on 466 fly-tipping incidents which led to nine interviews under caution and one prosecution;
  - Five fixed penalty notices were issued for fly-tipping offences.
- 18 We continued with a number of waste projects during quarter one including:
- Working in partnership to reduce the use of single use plastic. Early wins implemented include ceasing the use of plastic confetti within DCC pantomimes and specific recycling points for plastic bottles at sports events. A report will be presented to the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee in November.
  - 'Rethinking' our approach to procurement and potential technological opportunities in relation to a leachate system at Coxhoe East landfill site. Consequently, this project has been delayed by 12 months.
  - Work has commenced to replace Stainton Grove HWRC with an improved facility providing a range of recycling facilities and an area of the site for small businesses to deposit trade waste. Completion is expected December 2018.

## **Risk Management**

- 19 Effective risk management is a vital component of the council's agenda. The council's risk management process sits alongside our change programme and is incorporated into all significant change and improvement projects.
- 20 There are no key risks to successfully delivering the objectives of this theme.

## **Recommendations and reasons**

- 21 That the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive the report and consider any performance issues arising therewith.
- 22 That the Environment and Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the following change to the Council Plan outlined below:
- (i) The Commissioning of a leachate treatment system at Coxhoe East landfill site has been delayed. Only one compliant tender was returned and this was significantly above budget available. The service is currently reviewing the procurement approach.

---

**Contact: Jenny Haworth**

**Tel: 03000 268071**

---

---

## **Appendix 1: Implications**

---

### **Finance**

Latest performance information is being used to inform corporate, service and financial planning.

### **Staffing**

Performance against a number of relevant corporate health performance indicators has been included to monitor staffing issues.

### **Risk**

Reporting of significant risks and their interaction with performance is integrated into the quarterly monitoring report.

### **Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

Corporate health PIs are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

### **Accommodation**

Not applicable.

### **Crime and Disorder**

A number of performance indicators and key actions relating to crime and disorder are continually monitored in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

### **Human Rights**

Not applicable.

### **Consultation**

Not applicable.

### **Procurement**

Not applicable.

### **Disability Issues**

Employees with a disability are monitored as part of the performance monitoring process.

### **Legal Implications**

Not applicable.

## Appendix 2: Key Performance Indicators

There are two types of performance indicators throughout this document:

- (a) Key target indicators – targets are set as improvements can be measured regularly and can be actively influenced by the council and its partners; and
- (b) Key tracker indicators – performance is tracked but no targets are set as they are long-term and/or can only be partially influenced by the council and its partners.

A guide is available which provides full details of indicator definitions and data sources for the 2017/18 corporate indicator set. This is available to view either internally from the intranet or can be requested from the Strategy Team at [performance@durham.gov.uk](mailto:performance@durham.gov.uk)

### KEY TO SYMBOLS

	Direction of travel	Benchmarking	Performance against target
<b>GREEN</b>	Same or better than comparable period	Same or better than comparable group	Meeting or exceeding target
<b>AMBER</b>	Worse than comparable period (within 2% tolerance)	Worse than comparable group (within 2% tolerance)	Performance within 2% of target
<b>RED</b>	Worse than comparable period (greater than 2%)	Worse than comparable group (greater than 2%)	Performance >2% behind target

### National Benchmarking

We compare our performance to all English authorities. The number of authorities varies according to the performance indicator and functions of councils, for example educational attainment is compared to county and unitary councils however waste disposal is compared to district and unitary councils.

### North East Benchmarking

The North East figure is the average performance from the authorities within the North East region, i.e. County Durham, Darlington, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, Redcar and Cleveland, Stockton-On-Tees, South Tyneside, Sunderland. The number of authorities also varies according to the performance indicator and functions of councils.

More detail is available from the Strategy Team at [performance@durham.gov.uk](mailto:performance@durham.gov.uk)

## Key Target and Tracker Indicators

ALTOGETHER GREENER										
1. How clean and tidy is my local environment?										
Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to					
					Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different
107	NS14a	% of relevant land and highways assessed (LEQSPRO survey) as having deposits of litter that fall below an acceptable level	4.33	Apr-Jul 2018	Tracker	3.56				
					N/a	<b>RED</b>				
108	NS14b	% of relevant land and highways assessed (LEQSPRO survey) as having deposits of detritus that fall below an acceptable level	12.32	Apr-Jul 2018	Tracker	12.12				
					N/a	<b>AMBER</b>				
109	NS14c	% of relevant land and highways assessed as having deposits of dog fouling that fall below an acceptable level	0.56	Apr-Jul 2018	Tracker	0.96				
					N/a	<b>GREEN</b>				

ALTOGETHER GREENER										
2. Are we reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change?										
Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to					
					Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different
110	RED 46	% reduction in CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in County Durham (by 40% by 2020 and 55% by March 2031)	49.9	2015	Tracker	48				
					N/a	<b>GREEN</b>				
111	RED 48	% change in CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from local authority operations	-14	2016/17	Tracker	-6				
					N/a	<b>GREEN</b>				

## ALTOGETHER GREENER

### 3. How effective and sustainable is our collection and disposal of waste?

Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to					
					Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different
112	NS10	% of municipal waste diverted from landfill	96.6	2017/18	95 <b>GREEN</b>	95.9 <b>GREEN</b>				
112	NS19	% of household waste that is re-used, recycled or composted	40.1	2017/18	Tracker N/a	34.7 <b>GREEN</b>	43 <b>RED</b>	35.3 <b>GREEN</b>		2015/16
114	NS15	Number of fly-tipping incidents	7,941	Jul 17- Jun 18	Tracker N/a	7,524 <b>RED</b>				

## Other additional relevant indicators

ALTOGETHER WEALTHIER										
4. Is it easy to travel around the county?										
Ref	PI ref	Description	Latest data	Period covered	Comparison to					
					Period target	12 months earlier	National figure	North East figure	Nearest statistical neighbour	Period covered if different
15	NS 6a	% of A roads where maintenance is recommended (scanner survey)	3	2017/18	Tracker	3	3			2016/17
					N/a	GREEN	GREEN			
16	NS 6b	% of B and C roads where maintenance is recommended (scanner survey)	4	2017/18	Tracker	3	6			2016/17
					N/a	AMBER	GREEN			
17	NS 6d	% of unclassified roads where maintenance is recommended (scanner survey)	21	2017/18	Tracker	20	17			2016/17
					N/a	AMBER	RED			