



Report of the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services & Performance

Council - 5 December 2024

Annual Review of Performance 2023/24

Purpose:	To present a draft of the Council's Annual Review of Performance 2023/24, which meets the statutory requirements to publish an annual self-assessment report and annual well-being report under Part 6 of the Local Government & Elections Act (Wales) 2021 and Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 respectively.
Policy Framework:	Corporate Plan 2023-28 <i>Delivering a Successful and Sustainable Swansea</i> .
Consultation:	Access to Services, Finance, Legal.
Recommendation(s):	It is recommended that: 1) The draft Annual Review of Performance 2023/24 ("the Review") is approved for publication.
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Annual Review of Performance 2023/24 (referred to as the 'Review') represents a report on the progress the council has made undertaking the steps it set out in its Corporate Plan 2023-28 to work towards meeting each of the council's well-being objectives.
- 1.2 The well-being objectives agreed for 2023/24 were:

- **Safeguarding people from harm** – so that our citizens are free from harm and exploitation.
- **Improving Education & Skills** – so that everyone in Swansea gains the skills and qualifications they need to succeed in life.
- **Transforming our Economy & Infrastructure** – so that Swansea has a thriving mixed use City Centre and a local economy that will support the prosperity of our citizens.
- **Tackling Poverty** – so that every person in Swansea can achieve their potential.
- **Delivering on Nature Recovery and Climate Change** – so that we maintain and enhance nature and biodiversity in Swansea, reduce our carbon footprint and tackle climate change.
- **Transformation & Future Council development** – so that we and the services that we provide are sustainable and fit for the future.

1.3 In doing so, this review meets the performance duty established in Part 6 of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 to describe the extent to which the council is exercising its functions effectively, using its resources well when meeting its well-being objectives by working in line with the requirements set out in the Well-being of Future Generations Act. The effectiveness of governance is assessed in the council's Annual Governance Statement, which is published in the council's Statement of Accounts.

2. Approach and method

2.1 This review uses self-assessment to describe the extent to which the council is exercising its functions effectively, using its resources well when meeting its well-being objectives by working in line with the requirements set out in the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

2.2 The lead officer for each Well-being Objective undertook a strategic assessment of progress including consideration of what worked well and what could be done better. This was supported by case studies highlighting progress, a review of performance, an assessment of the 2023/24 areas for improvement and consideration of areas for improvement during 2024/25.

2.3 This review assesses the council's effectiveness in 2023/24 in exercising its functions and using its resources through:

- Progress meeting the steps set out in the Corporate Plan to achieve its well-being objectives.
- Resources (budgets, workforce, and assets) used when delivering its well-being objectives.
- The contribution of its well-being objectives to the National Goals.
- Working sustainably (in line with the 5 ways of working – the sustainable development principle – set out in the Well-being of Future Generations Act).

- 2.4 The self-assessment of progress against the Well-being Objectives was completed in conjunction with the council's end of year 2023/24 performance monitoring reports which showed that 66% of performance indicators either met or bettered their targets. This review also draws on feedback from Swansea residents, the council's staff, trade unions and business.

3. The Annual Review 2023/24

- 3.1 The review uses a number of sources to contribute to the performance assessment, including:

- The council's key performance indicators.
- Progress against Steps in each Well-being Objective
- Consultation and engagement
- Financial monitoring
- Governance
- Risk management
- Scrutiny Committees, Service Transformation Committee and Governance and Audit Committee
- Inspection reports

- 3.2 For each Well-being Objective the report outlines:

- Strategic Assessment of our performance
- Updates on the areas of improvement identified within the 2022/23 review
- The contribution to the National Wellbeing Goals
- How we are delivering the sustainable development principle
- Areas of Improvement for 2024/25

4. Integrated Assessment Implications

- 4.1 The Council is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage.
- Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language.
- Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.

- Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

4.1.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals'.

4.1.2 Our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) process ensures we have paid due regard to the above. It also takes into account other key issues and priorities, such as poverty and social exclusion, community cohesion, carers, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Welsh language.

4.2 This report meets our duty to report on progress in 2023/24 on the extent to which a local authority is meeting the performance duty required by Part 6 of the Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and in line with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015; there is no direct impact on people or communities.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 The financial resources required to implement all the actions and achieve the specified performance targets in 2023/24 were provided in the approved budget. Any additional financial implications that arose from the pursuance of the priorities in the Corporate Plan would have been dealt with as virement within the normal financial procedures.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 None.

Background Papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix A Annual Review of Performance 2023/24
Appendix B Integrated Implications Assessment