

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Executive Director of Corporate Services

Audit & Performance Review Committee: 27 February 2013

**Subject: Statutory Performance Indicators 2011/12 – Benchmarking
Performance With Other Scottish Councils**

1 Purpose

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to set out the Council's comparative performance in 2011/12 in relation to the Statutory Performance Indicators (SPIs).

2 Recommendations

- 2.1** It is recommended that the Committee notes the contents of this report.

3 Background

- 3.1** Each year, the Council is required to monitor and report a set of SPIs to Audit Scotland. There were 54 SPIs in 2011/12.
- 3.2** The Council's 2011/12 SPI performance was reported to Audit & Performance Review Committee in August last year but the performance of other local authorities only became available through Audit Scotland in December, hence this additional comparative report.
- 3.3** Audit Scotland no longer ranks local authorities on SPI performance but in common with other councils, West Dunbartonshire Council has produced its own ranking based on the data provided by Audit Scotland.

4 Main Issues

- 4.1** Appendix 1 shows the Council's 2011/12 SPI performance and sets this in the context of the performance of other local authorities. Specifically, it shows:
- the value, ranking, and quartile position for 2011/12, with the top performing councils in the first quartile (Q1) and the bottom performing councils in the fourth quartile (Q4);
 - the value, ranking, and quartile position for the previous year, i.e. 2010/11, for context;

- whether our comparative performance has improved, declined or stayed the same between 2010/11 and 2011/12; and
- the target that has been set for the current year, i.e. 2012/13.

4.2 It also provides additional benchmarking data including:

- the average value for all local authorities reporting on that measure (usually all 32 councils unless stated otherwise);
- the top and bottom quartile values, where the top quartile is the figure that 25% of results are better than, and the bottom quartile is the figure that 25% of results are worse than.

4.3 Table 1 below shows the number and percentage of SPIs in each quartile by year. The percentage of the Council's SPIs in the top quartile has remained fairly steady at 28% in 2010/11 and 22% in 2011/12 while the percentage of those in the bottom quartile has increased from 33% in 2010/11 to 47% in 2011/12.

Table 1:

Quartile	No./% Of SPIs in Quartile	
	2010/11	2011/12
1	15 (28%)	12 (22%)
2	10 (19%)	12 (22%)
3	11 (20%)	5 (9%)
4	18 (33%)	25 (47%)
Total	54	54

4.4 A ratio showing the number of SPIs in the top quartile to the number in the bottom quartile can be used as an overall measure of our SPI comparative performance. This is useful in providing a measure of our comparative performance year-on-year.

4.5 This ratio was 15:18 or 0.83 in 2010/11 and 12:25 or 0.48 in 2011/12, indicating a decline in performance.

4.6 Between 2010/11 and 2011/12, 8 SPIs (15%) improved their quartile position, 11 SPIs (20%) fell, and 35 SPIs (65%) showed no change.

4.7 Appropriate actions aligned to the review and continuous improvement of outcomes is monitored through departmental planning, objective setting and performance reporting mechanisms.

5 People Implications

- 5.1** There are no personnel issues.

6 Financial Implications

- 6.1** There are no financial implications.

7 Risk Analysis

- 7.1** There is a risk that performance will decline without adequate performance management and scrutiny by senior management and elected members.

8 Equalities Impact Assessment

- 8.1** An EIA is not required as this report provides an update on the Council's SPI comparative performance rather than proposes any new policy or activity or change to current policy or activity. It is therefore not relevant in terms of the Public Sector Equality Duty.

9 Consultation

- 9.1** Legal, Democratic & Regulatory Services and Finance & Resources were consulted in the preparation of this report.

10 Strategic Assessment

- 10.1** The Council has a statutory duty to monitor and report the SPIs regardless of their alignment to our strategic priorities and objectives. However, the SPIs are a sub set of the Council's Key Corporate Performance Indicators (KCPIs) which are reviewed annually to align with revised strategic priorities and objectives and ensure they provide a rounded picture of the Council's performance.

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Date: 18 January 2013

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Appendix: Appendix 1: SPIs 2011/12 - Benchmarking

Background Papers: Key Corporate Performance Indicators for the year 2011/12 (inc SPIs), Audit & Performance Review Committee 29 August 2012; and Council 26 September 2012

Wards Affected: All wards