Appendix 2 Explanatory narrative for those measures where targets were not met or where performance was not improving in 2022/2023

Outcomes:	Measure	Target	Perf	Explanations/narrative
Education and learning	School leavers achieving 1 or more awards at level 5		X	This measure includes (but is not restricted to) SQA National 5 National Qualifications (A-D passes), SQA SCQF Level 5 Skills for Work courses, SQA SCQF Level 5 National Progression Awards, SQA SCQF Level 5 Group awards and other ungraded SCQF Level 5 awards. SCQF Level 5 equates to what was Standard Grade Credit. This measure includes learners who have achieved at least one of these SCQF accredited Level 5 qualifications. In 2022, which was the first 'back to normal' post covid year, 90.03% of the 3,440 learners in the Leavers cohort achieved at least 1 SCQF Level 5 qualification at point of school exit. This compares to 87.25% in 2018 and 86.53% in 2019, the most recent 2 'normal' comparable years. 2020 and 2021 data includes learners who mostly undertook qualifications during SQA Alternative Certification Model (ACM) years. During the pandemic final exams were not possible, so learners achieved their qualifications via the ACM developed by schools in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council and National bodies. In most cases, attainment in these years was slightly higher due to the 'National Standard' not being applied through the SQA moderation process. In 2020 88.85% of Leavers achieved 1 qualification at SCQF Level 5 and in 2021 91.12% of Leavers achieved the same measure.
	School leavers achieving 1 or more awards at Level 6		X	This measure includes (but is not restricted to) SQA National 6 National Qualifications (A-D passes), SQA SCQF Level 6 Skills for Work courses, SQA SCQF Level 6 National Progression Awards, SQA SCQF Level 6 Group awards, Level 6 Personal Achievement Award and other ungraded SCQF Level 6 awards. SCQF Level 6 equates to Higher. This measure includes learners who have achieved at least one of these SCQF accredited Level 6 qualifications. In 2022, which was the first 'back to normal' post covid year, 68.9% of the 3,440 learners in the Leavers cohort achieved at least 1 SCQF Level 6 qualification at point of school exit. This compares to 65.5% in 2018 and 66.48% in 2019, the most recent 2 'normal' comparable years.

Outcomes:	Measure	Target	Perf	Explanations/narrative
				2020 and 2021 data includes learners who mostly undertook qualifications in SQA Alternative Certification Model (ACM) years. During the pandemic, final exams were not possible so learners achieved their qualifications via the ACM developed in school in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council and National bodies. In most cases, attainment in these years was slightly higher due to the 'National Standard' not being applied through the central SQA moderation process. In 2020 69.91% of Leavers achieved 1 qualification at SCQF Level 6 and in 2021 72.3% of Leavers achieved the same measure
Our economy	Unemployed people supported via council operated employability programmes		X	measure. The target of 1,200 was exceeded in 2022- 23 with 1,687 unemployed people supported via council operated employability programmes. The comparative number of people supported in 2021-22 was 1,934, considerably higher than both the target and the result for 2022- 23: as a result of the pandemic more unemployed people were engaging with the council programmes, a sign of increased confidence from both employers and jobseekers as the labour market recovers. Following the pandemic there has been a significant reduction in claimant count unemployment with the result that fewer people require support through traditional employability referral routes and there has been a corresponding reduction in referrals for unemployed adults. As a result of this and a shift in Scottish Government funding priorities, the focus of the Council's employability activity is shifting to key priority groups including young people aged 16-19, parents who require support to move into employment and people with additional support needs and health needs. These client groups often require longer term support to successfully progress to employment.
	Business support interventions by Economic Development (grants, loans or advice	~	X	The 2020-21 and 2021-22 figures were inflated due to the additional Scottish Government funding associated with Covid- 19. Given this unique situation, these figures cannot be compared with pre/post Covid years. Whilst the number of interventions looks like it has reduced, in actual fact, it is above target figure and higher than the 2019-20 pre-Covid level.

Outcomes:	Measure	Target	Perf	Explanations/narrative
Communities	Percentage of our road network	X	Х	Since 2018 we have seen road
and	that should be considered for			maintenance costs increase by 60%
environment	maintenance treatment (Road			(source: indices associated with roads
	Condition Index)			construction rates) with the most notable
				increases in the past few years as a result
				of the covid pandemic and sustained
				construction inflation.
				In simple terms, projects are costing much
				more than before, and the
				equivalent/sustained scale of works to
				maintain road condition are not presently
				possible.
				Further regression in the condition of our
				road network is expected unless we can
				reverse the recent inflationary impacts. Our network remains extremely vulnerable
				to the impacts of extreme weather, climate
				change and utility openings. Severe
				weather continues to directly impact our
				roads and assets which further increases
				the pressure on our finite resources to
				maintain the condition of our network.
				In the meantime, efforts and being made to
				prioritise available spend, maximise external
				funding opportunities and to expand
				preventative maintenance techniques.
	Percentage of household waste	Х	♦	The Household Recycling Rate for 2022
	that is recycled			was 41.2%. This remains below the target
				of 50%. A new bulky waste contract
				commenced on 1 April 2022, and continues
				to increase the quantities of bulky waste
				being recycled. The service has also now
				recruited additional Waste Education
				Officers to rollout a new service change for
				flatted properties to improve the recycling
				rates. The majority of the material at the
				flatted properties tends to be too badly
				contaminated to recycle and therefore is
				landfilled as residual waste. The service has
				also begun a review of the waste service
				that will include developing a new kerbside
				waste collection scheme that will deliver a
				more efficient service and encourage
				greater recycling.

Outcomes:	Measure	Target	Perf	Explanations/narrative
	% of streets found to be acceptable during litter monitoring system (LMS) surveys	X	X	South Lanarkshire Council continues to score higher for its street cleansing service than the Scottish average, with 92.10% of streets surveyed found to be of an acceptable standard, although this is down slightly from 94.05% in 2020-21. South Lanarkshire Council also scored higher than the Club 3 (local authority benchmarking club) average which is 91.1%. It should also be noted that the Street Cleansing service were finalists in the 2022 APSE Service Awards for the whole of the UK in the category of "Best Service Team of the Year for Streets Cleansing and Streetscene Service". Looking forward, the service has begun a review of litter bin provision across South Lanarkshire with the aim of replacing lower capacity pole mounted bins with higher capacity free standing bins, and ensuring bins are in the optimum location in relation to the population and footfall.
Health and wellbeing	% of drug/alcohol clients starting treatment/psychological intervention within 3 weeks of referral	~	X	The target has been met; however, performance is down 4% on the previous year. This is a result of the national recruitment challenges facing both health and social work. Vacancies within localities are now being filled with staff taking up post during the summer months. Engagement protocols are also under review to encourage improved attendance at appointments. Peer Support workers are now in post and review referrals against set criteria to ensure vulnerable service users are prioritised.
	% of drug/alcohol clients starting treatment/psychological intervention within 3 weeks of referral	•	×	The target has been met; however, performance is down 4% on the previous year. This is a result of the national recruitment challenges facing both health and social work. Vacancies within localities are now being filled with staff taking up post during the summer months. Engagement protocols are also under review to encourage improved attendance at appointments. Peer Support workers are now in post and review referrals against set criteria to ensure vulnerable service users are prioritised.

Outcomes:	Measure	Target	Perf	Explanations/narrative
	Local authority and private welfare guardianship visits	V	X	The target has been met; however, performance is down 2% on the previous year. The existing national workforce challenges are impacting on available staffing. The Social Work Workforce Plan 2022-2025 is focussed on maximising the use of available resources with the redesign of existing services and review of current recruitment practices. This statutory area of work is prioritised within the Resource to ensure that targets continue to be met. The availability of adults or guardians, or requests for alternative arrangements also contribute to overall performance. Engagement protocols remain under review and alternative arrangements are offered within timescale where possible.
Housing and land	% of new tenancies sustained for more than a year for all lets	~	×	Tenancy sustainment has remained strong in year, significantly above target and favourably comparable with our peers. The slight reduction from previous year was something that was anticipated as the covid-19 stay-at-home message and legislative restrictions had resulted in an increase in tenancy sustainment over the past 3years, with pre-covid position being 90.08% in 2019/20. Tenancy sustainment continues to be a focus for management and is routinely monitored.