

Report

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To:	Performance and Review Scrutiny Forum
Date:	6 June 2018
Prepared by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Local Government Benchmarking Framework Draft Results 2016/2017
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1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to:-
- advise the Performance and Review Scrutiny Forum of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) draft results for 2016/2017

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The Forum is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-
- (1) that the draft LGBF results for 2016/2017 and their publication on 12 February 2018 be noted; and
 - (2) to note that Executive Directors will consider the final results to help inform future improvement activity.

3. Background

- 3.1. The core purpose of the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) is benchmarking - to make comparisons on spend/cost, performance and customer satisfaction results between similar councils. This helps identify strengths and areas for improvement, and facilitates learning from those who are achieving the best performance.
- 3.2. At the core of the framework is an agreed suite of performance indicators, collated under the following headings:
- Children's Services
 - Corporate Services (ie support services)
 - Adult Social Care
 - Culture and Leisure Services
 - Environmental Services
 - Housing Services
 - Corporate Assets
 - Economic Development
- 3.3. These headings represent approximately 70% of local authority spend.
- 3.3. Publication of the local LGBF results is a statutory requirement set out by the Accounts Commission in the Direction to local authorities as required by the Local Government Act 1992. It is seen as a key part of councils' commitment to Best Value and continuous improvement.

4. Publication of Data

- 4.1. The latest draft LGBF data for Scottish councils (for the financial year 2016/2017) were published nationally by the Improvement Service on 12 February 2018. The Improvement Service also provided a link to an online 'visualisation tool' which enables members of the public to explore the LGBF results for themselves – [mylocalcouncil](#). A national overview report detailing the trends and results across Scotland was also published by the Improvement Service.
- 4.2. At a local level, each council is required to publish its own results at the same time as the official publication by the Improvement Service. As in previous years, the latest LGBF trend information for South Lanarkshire Council was uploaded to the Council's website the week commencing 5 February 2018. A copy of the report, which summarises and explains the draft results, is attached as Appendix 1.
- 4.3. The Forum is asked to note that Appendix 1 was compiled using draft data made available in December 2017 and will not reflect any last-minute amendments or corrections notified by the Improvement Service after that date. The published figures may, therefore, differ slightly from those presented in Appendix 1.
- 4.4. Across the 73 indicators, South Lanarkshire Council's performance improved against 34 (47%) indicators, remained the same against 1 (1%) indicator, and declined for 23 (31%) indicators. There are 15 (21%) indicators for which the 2016/2017 results are not yet available.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1. The Forum is asked to note that Executive Directors will consider a full analysis of the final 2016/2017 LGBF results and use this to inform future improvement activity, where appropriate.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. To further the work of the Improvement Service in relation to the LGBF, each Scottish local authority has committed to make a £2,500 annual contribution, including financial year 2017/2018. This is met from within existing budgets.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. There are no risk or sustainability issues associated with the content of this report.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 9.2. Consultation took place with all Resources via the Corporate Improvement Advisory Board (CIAB).

Paul Manning
Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

14 May 2018

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- Achieve results through leadership, good governance and organisational effectiveness

Previous References

- Performance and Review Scrutiny Forum (31 October 2017) – Scottish Local Government Benchmarking Framework – final results 2015/2016

List of Background Papers

- LGBF draft results 2016/2017– issued by the Improvement Service (1 December 2017)

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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