EDT Committee

Item No.....Report title:Performance managementDate of meeting:20 October 2017Responsible ChiefTom McCabe - Executive Director, Community and
Environmental Services

Strategic impact

Robust performance management is key to ensuring that the organisation works both efficiently and effectively to develop and deliver services that represent good value for money and which meet identified need.

Executive summary

This is the sixth performance management report to this committee that is based upon the revised Performance Management System, which was implemented as of 1 April 2016, and the committee's 13 vital signs indicators.

Details of the revised Performance Management System are available in the 11 March 2016 EDT Committee 'Performance monitoring and risk report' on the Norfolk County Council web site at http://norfolkcc.cmis.uk.com/norfolkcc/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/421/Committee/18/Default.aspx

Performance is reported on an exception basis using a report card format, meaning that only those vital signs that are performing poorly or where performance is deteriorating are presented to committee.

Of the 13 vital signs indicators that fall within the remit of this committee, three have met the exception criteria and so will be discussed in depth as part of the presentation of this report:

- Planning service speed of determination.
- % of rural population able to access a market town or key employment location within 60 minutes by public transport.
- % of Local Wildlife Sites in positive management.

Technically a further measure complies with the exception reporting criteria (Winter gritting - % of actions completed within 3 hours) in that its last data point (March 2017) was red. Performance against this was covered in previous reports, nevertheless we will continue to monitor this as it becomes relevant through the winter months and report any off-target performance.

Recommendations:

1. Review and comment on the performance data, information and analysis presented in the vital sign report cards and determine whether the recommended actions identified are appropriate or whether another course of action is required (refer to list of possible actions in Appendix 1).

In support of this, Appendix 1 provides:

- A set of prompts for performance discussions
- Suggested options for further actions where the committee requires additional information or work to be undertaken

1. Introduction

1.1. This is the sixth performance management report to this committee that is based upon the revised Performance Management System, which was implemented as of 1 April 2016, and the committee's 13 vital signs indicators.

Previously there were 14 vs indicators reported to this committee, however one has been transferred from this committee's remit to the Digital Innovation and Efficiency committee, it being "% of Norfolk homes with superfast Broadband coverage".

- 1.2. This report contains:
 - A Red/Amber/Green rated dashboard overview of performance across all 13 vital signs indicators
 - Report cards for the vital signs that have met the exception reporting criteria.
- 1.3. The full list of vital signs indicators can be found at Appendix 2. The vital signs indicators are monitored during the year and are subject to review when processes are amended to improve performance, to ensure that the indicator correctly captures future performance.
- 1.4. The lead officers for those areas of performance that have been highlighted through the exception reporting process are available at this committee meeting to answer any specific questions Members may have about the services concerned. The report author is available to answer any questions that Members may have about the performance management framework and how it operates.

2. Performance dashboard

- 2.1. The performance dashboard provides a quick overview of Red/Amber/Green rated performance across all 13 vital signs. This then complements that exception reporting process and enables committee members to check that key performance issues are not being missed.
- 2.2. The current exception reporting criteria are as below:
 - Performance is off-target (Red RAG rating or variance of 5% or more)
 - Performance has deteriorated for three consecutive periods (months/quarters/years)
 - Performance is adversely affecting the council's ability to achieve its budget
 - Performance is adversely affecting one of the council's corporate risks.
 - Performance is off-target (Amber RAG rating) and has remained at an Amber RAG rating for three periods (months/quarters/years)'.

2.3 Environment, Development & Transport Committee - Vital Signs Dashboard

NOTES:

In most cases the RAG colours are set as: Green being equal to or better than the target; Amber being within 5% (not percentage points) worse than the target; Red being more than 5% worse than target. "White' spaces denote that data will become available; 'grey' spaces denote that no data is currently expected, typically because the indicator is being finalised. The target value is that which relates to the latest measure period result in order to allow comparison against the RAG colours. A target may also exist for the current and/or future periods.

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Monthly	Bigger or Smaller is better	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16	Dec 16	Jan 17	Feb 17	Mar 17	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17	Aug 17	Target
{PE} Percentage of bus services on time	Bigger	79.2%	80.5%	81.3%	80.4%	78.7%	83.7%	83.7%	83.7%	82.5% 62282/75461	82.7%	80.9%	80.7%		79 <mark>.0</mark> %
{HW} Winter gritting - % of actions completed within 3 hours	Bigger				86.9% 392/451	91.2%	83.3%	90.1% 326/362	70.0%		196	340			100%
{HW} Street lighting – C02 reduction (tonnes)	Smaller	692	830	1,019	1,129	1,213	1,176	960	881	692	591	498	554		602
{PE} Planning service – speed of determination	Bigger	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	91.7%	100.0%	100.0%	92.3%	66.7% 2/3			95.0%
{HW} Average journey speed during morning peak time	Bigger							104			12710				Under Developn ent
{FBP} Income and external funding successfully achieved as a % of overall revenue budget	Bigger	30.5%	29.2%	30.6%	29.9%	30.3%	34.4%	35.2%	30.5%	25.1%	27.2%	31.6%			25.1%
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Quarterly / Termly	Bigger or Smaller is better	Sep 14	Dec 14	Mar 15	Jun 15	Sep 15	Dec 15	Маг 16	Jun 16	Sep 16	Dec 16	Маг 17	Jun 17	Sep 17	Target
{HW} % of planning applications agreed by Local Planning Authorities contrary to NCC recommendations regarding the highway	Smaller	23.5%	27.3%	19.0%	20.0%	16.7%	17.8%	20.4%	24.2%	22.9%	32.5%	24.0%	17.6%		22%
	L PL	4/17	6/22	4/21	6/30	4/24	8/45	11/54	16/66	11/48	13/40	12 / 50	6/34		
{PE} % of rural population able to access a market town or key employment location within 60 minutes by public transport	Bigger	75.0%	75.1%	75.5%	74.6%	74.1%	71.4%	71.4%	72.0%	72.0%	68.4%	69.6%	69.4%		7 <mark>5</mark> %
{PE} Kilograms of residual household waste per household per week	Smaller			10.4				10.0	100			10.0			10,1

Annual (financial / academic)	Bigger or Smaller is better	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Target
(HW) Highway improvements for local communities – parish partnerships	Bigger											145	193	227	227
{CH} % of Local Wildlife Sites in positive management	Bigger							61.0%	61.0%	65.0%	67.0%	75.0%	72.1%	-	80.0%
{PE} Number of new and existing properties at high risk (1 in 30 years) of surface water flooding	Smaller												<mark>100%</mark>		1
{CH} Equality of Access to Nature for All – number of audited routes	Bigger	100										1	4	17	8

NOTES:

- 1. Indicators are usually reported on a monthly, calendar year or financial year basis, the colour of the different headings below corresponds with the colour of the indicator title.
- 2. In most cases the RAG colours are set as: Green being equal to or better than the target; Amber being within 5% (not percentage points) worse than the target; Red being more than 5% worse than target.
- 3. The target displays the latest target from the latest period shown. That target may be different from the target for the latest actual value shown due to profiling.
- 4. Where cells have been greyed out this indicates: that data is not available due either to the frequency of reporting or the vital sign being under development. In this case, under development can mean that the vital sign has yet to be fully defined or that baseline data is being gathered.

3. Report cards

- 3.1. A report card has been produced for each vital sign. It provides a succinct overview of performance and outlines what actions are being taken to maintain or improve performance. The report card follows a standard format that is common to all committees and updated on a monthly basis.
- 3.2. Vital signs are reported to committee on an exceptions basis. The report cards for those vital signs that do not meet the exception criteria on this occasion, and so are not formally reported, are also collected and are available to view if requested.

Planning Service – Speed of Determination

Why is this important?

The planning system operates in the long term public interest. It doesn't exist to protect the interests of one person or business against the activities of another. Development Management is a key part of the planning system and services that provide certainty and speed of decision making whilst maintaining transparency are central to achieving sustainable economic growth.



Access to market towns and key employment locations using public transport

Why is this important?

Access to key locations is important for those living in rural areas so that they can access not only work but also health and other essential services, shopping, education and leisure activities. This in turn reduces social and rural isolation and contributes to overall wellbeing of residents.



Responsible Officers

Lead: Laurie Egan, Head of Travel and Transport Data: Martin Stringfellow/Sean Asplin, Passenger Transport Managers

% of Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) in positive management (Single Data List indicator 160/Biodiversity 2020 indicator 16) – our target is 100% by 2020

Why is this important?

What is the background to current performance?

As a lead partner in the LWS Partnership we need to ensure that Norfolk's important natural capital assets are safeguarded and integrated into decision-making to support and promote future growth.

Performance



4. Exceptions (additional explanation) and other updates

4.1.

 Planning Service – Speed of Determination (Jun 2017 was Red: 66.7% against a target of 95% - May 2017 was 92.3%)

The performance for June reflects that it is based on an unusually small number of applications. In this instance one application from three being determined outside an agreed time limit. This was due to matters raised by a statutory consultee remaining unresolved on the 8 week threshold. The issue was ultimately resolved and a decision was issued two weeks later. Overall performance for 2017/18 is at 92% and the rolling two year average above 95%. The service will need to review the approach to negotiation, even where we believe a solution is achievable, but where extensions to time cannot formally be agreed with applicants.

Suggested actions to remedy this include increased uptake on pre-application advice provided for a fee to shorten time to determine applications and engagement with applicants to get applications that meet statutory consultees requirements as submitted without the need for additional information.

4.2. % of rural population able to access a market town or key employment location within 60 minutes by public transport.
 (2017/18 Q1 was Red: 69.4% against a target of 75% - 2016/17 Q4 was 69.6%)

Performance has dropped this year after being fairly stable between 73.5% and 75.5% for the last 3 years. Flexibuses still exist and more flexible feeders are in place, plus operator service changes, including changes to routes and frequencies causing the dip in the performance figure. This measure used to be a national performance indicator but we are not currently aware of any other authorities who continue to measure it on a regular basis, therefore there is no benchmarking data. The current target reflects the limited opportunities to increase subsidised public transport within the current financial climate – progress will be made by working with commercial operators and integrating with other transport services.

The performance lead has suggested that the reported figure is not fit for purpose and has looked at amendments to rectify this, but has not been able to come up with anything suitable. TRACC will not report on Community Transport and Flexibuses and flexible feeders that are used to deliver some of our transport. No software exists for NCC to tap into this as the data is not in any form that allows it to be read. The performance lead advises that a staff member has been given the TRACC system to access and use (following training). He advises that the data derives from Travelline, which itself comes from registrations of scheduled services. These registrations all have routes and stops on and this can be mapped and interrogated. Flexibuses are a registered area rather than set routes, therefore these are not registered in the same way as traditional bus routes. The feeders we use and Community Transport are not required to be registered due to the way they operate and the license they are operated under. Therefore they do not appear on this base Traveline information.

Therefore, although we can continue with the current indicator, it does give a misleading view of accessibility, as we are often using flexible feeders to fill gaps left by conventional buses and overall, this is not easy to indicate. He has suggested that going back to a target level of service would give a better indicator as of old, where we could assess what level of service towns and villages should have (based on population) and report on the level that meet the target level of service. Though it may take some time to set-up, once done would be fairly straightforward to monitor.

However, the Local Transport Plan has this measure and its targets set until 2026. The target was amended down to 77% in 2012/13 to account for not including the flexibus et al services. Whilst in principle, in order to reflect current practices, we ought to include those services, the target is not set as such. In essence, it may be worth continuing with the very same process, but making it much clearer for vital sign 333, what is missing, by listing contracts we have that do not appear on this report, so that members could understand what the figure they have represents and what is not included.

The problem will always be that the figure may continue to drop, as NCC moves away from scheduled services and replace isolated rural gaps with flexible services of feeder/connecting services. We will find it increasingly difficult to confirm (as has been the case through the last year), exactly what has changed every quarter, but as at present, we would continue to review all registrations, which is a time consuming task as comparing timetables can be difficult, especially with the way we store information.

4.3.
% of Local Wildlife Sites in positive management (2015/16 was Red: 72.1% against a target of 80% - 2014/15 was 75%)

This data for 2015/16 should have been reported in October 2016. Reporting was delayed due to failure by Defra to provide agri-environment scheme data. 2016/17 will be reported in October 2017. The final value provided is based on incomplete data because Defra did not provide all that was needed to calculate the figure. We did not receive the data for the Countryside Stewardship scheme for last year and will not so the figure is incomplete. It is difficult to estimate the missing data as CS is new and operating quite differently to the previous schemes.

Following correspondence with Defra it is considered unlikely that we will get the missing data for the 2015/16 reporting year. Hopefully we can pressure Defra to ensure it is provided for the next reporting round. As a result data for this period should be used for reference only. The upward trend is still continuing and it is likely that we would have shown a continued increase in the percentage of sites in positive management with the additional data.

We continue to influence the management of these sites via our lead role on the Local Sites Partnership. At present there is little additional action that we can take to improve the picture. This vital sign is part of the SDL so NCC are not the only authority that has been unable to report on this. We are in contact with other organisations who also do report on this measure and the data has not been provided to anyone. As a result all Local Authorities reporting on this measure (SDL160) will have been unable to report the correct figure.

The current situation is that we now have the Countryside Stewardship (CS) data for this reporting year (2016/17) and we will be reporting SDL-160 to Defra by their deadlines and the results of which will be available in October. In terms of future trends, we will be much better placed to assess this once we have reported the results for 2016/17.

5. Recommendations

5.1 Committee Members are asked to:

• Review and comment on the performance data, information and analysis presented in the vital sign report cards and determine whether the recommended actions identified are appropriate or whether another course of action is required (refer to list of possible actions in Appendix 1).

In support of this, Appendix 1 provides:

- A set of prompts for performance discussions
- Suggested options for further actions where the committee requires additional information or work to be undertaken

6. Financial Implications

6.1. There are no financial implications arising from the development of the revised performance management system or the performance and risk monitoring reports.

7. Issues, risks and innovation

7.1. There are no significant issues, risks and innovations arising from the development of the revised performance management system or the performance and risk monitoring reports.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper or want to see copies of any assessments, e.g. equality impact assessment, please get in touch with:

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Performance discussions and actions

Reflecting good performance management practice, there are some helpful prompts that can help scrutinise performance, and guide future actions. These are set out below.

Suggested prompts for performance improvement discussion

In reviewing the vital signs that have met the exception reporting criteria and so included in this report, there are a number of performance improvement questions that can be worked through to aid the performance discussion, as below:

- 1. Why are we not meeting our target?
- 2. What is the impact of not meeting our target?
- 3. What performance is predicted?
- 4. How can performance be improved?
- 5. When will performance be back on track?
- 6. What can we learn for the future?

In doing so, committee members are asked to consider the actions that have been identified by the vital sign lead officer.

Performance improvement – recommended actions

A standard list of suggested actions have been developed. This provides members with options for next steps where reported performance levels require follow-up and additional work.

All actions, whether from this list or not, will be followed up and reported back to the committee.

Suggested follow-up actions

The suggested 'follow up actions' have been amended, following on from discussions at the Communities Committee meeting on 11 May 2016, to better reflect the roles and responsibilities in the Committee System of governance.

	Action	Description
1	Approve actions	Approve actions identified in the report card and set a date for reporting back to the committee
2	Identify alternative/additional actions	Identify alternative/additional actions to those in the report card and set a date for reporting back to the committee
3	Refer to Departmental Management Team	DMT to work through the performance issues identified at the committee meeting and develop an action plan for improvement and report back to committee
4	Refer to committee task and finish group	Member-led task and finish group to work through the performance issues identified at the committee meeting and develop an action plan for improvement and report back to committee
5	Refer to County Leadership Team	Identify key actions for performance improvement and refer to CLT for action
6	Refer to Policy and Resources Committee	Identify key actions for performance improvement that have 'whole Council' performance implications and refer them to the Policy and Resources committee for action.

Appendix 2 – EDT Committee Vital Signs indicators

A vital sign is a key indicator from one of the Council's services which provides members, officers and the public with a clear measure to assure that the service is performing as it should and contributing to the Council's priorities. It is, therefore, focused on the results experienced by the community. There are 13 vital signs indicators for the EDT Committee. The full list with explanations of what the vital sign indicator measures and why it is important, is as below.

Vital Signs Indicators	What it measures	Why it is important
Bus journey time reliability	% of bus services that are on schedule at intermediate time points	Better transport networks bring firms and workers closer together, and provide access to wider local markets
Planned growth in the right places	% of planning applications agreed by Local Planning Authorities contrary to NCC recommendations regarding the highway	Poorly planned developments can place unacceptable burdens on existing resources and infrastructure and negatively impact those living in/near the developments.
Highway improvements for local communities - parish partnerships	Cumulative bids for all Norfolk Parishes compared to cumulative bids from Parishes that had not previously submitted a bid	Empowerment of communities to take greater control of the response to locally identified issues supports community resilience and autonomy
Public Transport Accessibility	% of rural population able to access a market town or key employment location within 60 minutes by public transport	Access to work and key facilities promotes economic growth and health and wellbeing
Winter gritting	% of actions completed within 3 hours	We have a statutory duty to ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, that the safe passage along a highway is not endangered by snow and ice
Street lighting – C02 reduction (tonnes)	Carbon Dioxide emissions and energy use	Street lighting is one of the Council's biggest energy users. Putting in place measures to reduce carbon will reduce our CO2 emissions and costs

Vital Signs Indicators	What it measures	Why it is important
Residential house waste collection	Weekly kg of residential house waste collected per household	The amount of household waste collected and the costs arising from processing it have risen for the past three years. Housing growth (65,000 new houses between 2013 and 2026) will create further pressures
Protection of the natural environment	% of Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) in positive management	The natural environment is one of Norfolk's key assets and a significant contributor to the economic success of Norfolk
Management of flood risk	Number of new and existing properties at high risk (1 in 30 years) of surface water flooding	Flooding undermines existing infrastructure and impacts directly on health and economy
Planning determination	Speed of planning determination	Timely planning decision are important to economic growth and development
Equality of Access to Nature for All	Number of audited routes	Access to green space promotes health and wellbeing and tourism
Road network reliability	Average journey speed during morning peak time	A safe, reliable road network with quick journey times enables business growth
External funding achievement	Income and external funding successfully achieved as a % of overall revenue budget	High quality organisations are successful in being able to attract and generate alternative sources of funding

Those highlighted in bold above, 2 out of 13, are vital signs indicators deemed to have a corporate significance and so will be reported at both the EDT Committee and the Policy and Resources Committee.

One of the vital signs indicators listed above also appears on the Communities Committee list:

• 'Income and external funding successfully achieved as a % of overall revenue budget'.