Overall Council Performance: Quarter 4 and End of Year 2018/19 (excluding performance under remit of Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

Summary

Medway's Council Plan 2016/21 sets out the Council's three priorities.

This report and appendices summarise how the Council performed in quarter 4 and End of Year 2018/19 on the delivery of these priorities and the actions the Council are taking to improve performance.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

1.1. The Council Plan 2016/21 was agreed at Full Council in February 2016. It sets out the Council's three priorities and three ways of working which aim to deliver these priorities.

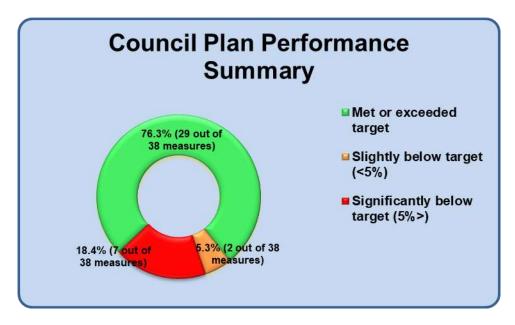
2. Background

2.1 This report focuses on where we have achieved or exceeded our targets, and how we are tackling underperformance.

3. Summary of performance

3.1. Council Plan - all measures

3.2. There are 43 Council Plan measures for 2018/19. This report sets out details of 38 measures as 2 measures are data only and 3 measures are not available.



3.3. Improved performance

- 60.5% (23 out of 38*) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)
- 60.5% (23 out of 38*) improved short term (since last quarter)

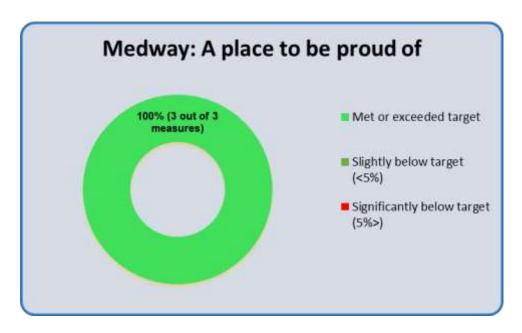
Council Priority: Medway: A place to be proud of Performance: Quarter 4 & End of Year 2018/19

Key

significantly below target (>5%)	slightly below target (<5%)	met or exceeded targ	et
1 improved	worsened	= static	
data only, no target	N/A – data not available	Short – since last qtr	Long – avg last 4 qtrs
Benchmarking – compares favourably with national performance or standards	✓ Yes compares favourably	No does not compare favourably	= similar performance

Council Plan measures: Summary Performance

There are 3 Council Plan measures for this priority.



Improved performance

- 0% (0 out of 3) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters
- 0% (0 out of 3) improved short term

Highlights

- All 7 Green Flags retained
- 2,097 volunteering days for Greenspaces
- 100% (242) reported fly tips removed within one working day. Total tonnage: 25.07 tonnes
- Submission of the £170million Housing Infrastructure Fund co-development business case
- 93.2% library satisfaction rate against target of 85%
- 388,159 visits to Medway sports centres against a target of 342,000

Benchmarking / Achieve National Standards

	Council Plan Performance Measure - Compares favourably with national performance or standards?	Yes ✓ No x Same =
GH6 NEW	Satisfaction with parks and green spaces - direct users CP	
	7 Green Flags awarded	✓

Measures in target (green)

Code	Status	Name	Long Trend	Short Trend
NI195a		Improved street and environmental cleanliness:	•	
GH6 NEW	②	Satisfaction with parks and green spaces - direct users CP	-	1
W6 CP	>	Satisfaction with refuse collection - Citizens Panel result	•	1

Council Plan Outcome: A clean and green environment

Programme: Public Realm and Street Scene

Council Plan Measures: Performance

GH6 N	IEW	Satisfaction	Satisfaction with parks and green spaces - direct users CP				Aim to	o Max	imise		
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Targe t	Statu s
Q3 18/19	87.3%	Q4 18/19	78.8%	75%	②	•	1	18/19	N/A	N/A	N/A

Comments

The Council maintains 1,900 ha (the equivalent of 13 Hyde Parks) of open space for the enjoyment of all. This includes 148 urban parks, two country parks and 48 countryside areas that are managed for their wildlife and conservation value. Medway has over 125 play areas, skate parks and multi-use games areas, offering a wide range of activities for children and teenagers. The Council will work to maximise the use of Medway's green spaces for health and wellbeing, place making and support people's interaction with nature.

Action

Greenspace development continues at pace across Medway, with the much acclaimed Queen Elizabeth Playing Fields Pump Track (a first for Medway) being successfully launched by the Deputy Mayor in November. Riders came from across Medway and neighbouring areas (including south London) to ride the track. Work with the Sports Development Team is underway to promote training and activities in 2019. Using s106 funds, the team delivered enhancements to six play areas. The sites were Barnfield, where the nine new pieces of play equipment have been provided, Copperfields, which saw a new play assault course being provided alongside landscaping, the Strand saw the start of works to provide a Parkour course (another first for Medway), new equipment at Riverside Country Park plus improvements to Hillyfields and Balmoral Gardens. All seven Green Flag sites sailed through their assessments and following judges feedback, the site's managements plans have been reviewed and updated for the 2019/20 submissions. Other works followed a request from councillors and the public to remove the damaged boardwalk at Berengrave Local Nature Reserve. Alongside this activity, the team have supported the development of a new Friends group for this site with volunteer activities being supported through works days and evening meetings. The car park at Beechings Way was extended to ease parking pressures on match days. Jacksons Recreation Ground, Gillingham Park and Holding Street both saw refurbishment of their play areas.

The Command of the Heights £2.2m Heritage Lottery Funded (HLF) project has completed tendering and procurement, with the appointment in June 2018 of Coleman & James as the main contractor. The project aims to revitalise the open space at the Chatham Waterfront Area and provide improved Town Centre linkages to Fort Amherst and the Great Lines Heritage Park. Value engineering is completed and significant saving were made. Works at Fort Amherst's barrier ditch and Spur Battery commenced in October 2018. Financial claims continue to be submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund. Following a ground breaking ceremony in January 2019, the demolition of Riverside 1 has commenced. Further education events have been held, along with a successful film launch. A marketing consultant has been appointed to improve the Fort website and promotion. Construction work is due to complete late summer 2019 with the celebration event on 19-22 September 2019 at the Fort involving the Icon Theatre. Full HLF project completion is April 2020.

Benchmarking / Achieve National Standards

The 2018 Green Flag judging took place in May 2018 and focused on the Great Lines Heritage Park and Broomhill Park. At both sites the judges were joined by Greenspace officers and members of the Friends of Groups. The other five green flag sites were 'mystery shopped'. The Council secured all seven green flags sites (Great Lines Heritage Park, Broomhill Park, Hillyfields, The Vines, Capstone Farm Country Park, Riverside Country Park and Gillingham Park). Press releases promoted this achievement. Work is underway to update management plans and applications for the 2019 round. Preparation for 2019 judging is now in-hand with the 7 management plans being reviewed in accordance with the judges' comments. Meetings with Medway Norse are taking place to ensure site maintenance is good.

NI 195 NEW	5a	Improved	street and	l environm	ental clea	nliness: L	itter	Aim to Maximise			
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Targe t	Statu s
Q3 18/19	96.33 %	Q4 18/19	96.33%	96%	>	•	-	18/19	96.58 %	96%	

Comments

During Q4 96% (289/300) of the streets surveyed were free from litter at the time of the inspections. This is due to a robust contract monitoring programme and a high standard of cleanse being achieved by Veolia. Contract Monitoring Officers carried out an additional 250 street inspections of areas cleansed as part of their monitoring duties to ensure that the contractor is achieving an acceptable result of grade A or B.

Action

Street Scene Enforcement dealt with 242 reported fly tips, 100% of these were removed by the teams within one working day. Evidence was retrieved in 58 cases and referred for further investigation.

In addition, the team dealt with a further 173 fly tips proactively, meaning that they were gone before the public could report them. Total tonnage removed by the teams was 25.07 tonnes.

16 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued for littering, dog fouling and other offences during Q4 (9 littering and 7 others including one for breach of a community protection notice).

9 fly tipping, littering and waste related cases were prosecuted at Medway Magistrates Court for Q4. Fines and costs totalled £13,376.29.

During Q4, the Council assisted with the removal of waste from 14 projects undertaken

by Community Payback. Helping to improve the quality of street scene for all. Projects included Grounds clearance at White Road Estates, Princes Park, Pier Road, Bath Hard Lane, Knight Road and Pearl Close.

W6 CF	•	Satisfacti	on with re	fuse collec	ction - Citi	zens Pane	l result	Aim to Maximise			
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Targe t	Statu s
Q3 18/19	89.2%	Q4 18/19	87.9%	85%	②	•	1	18/19	N/A	N/A	N/A

Comments

Satisfaction with refuse collection is above target. There has been a slight decrease to 87.9% in Q4 2018/19, from the 89.2% reported in Q3 2018/19. 4.5% of respondents were neutral about the service (up slightly from 3.1% in Q3) and 7.2% were dissatisfied (up slightly from 6.7% in Q3).

This is based upon 223 respondents to the Q4 2018/19 Citizens' Panel giving an overall margin of error of +/-6.6%, meaning the change in satisfaction is not statistically significant.

Satisfaction with refuse collections remains at a very high level due to the efficient collection service. This year there has been a significant increase in the number of new developments requiring a site visit by Waste Services officers to ensure that safe collections can commence

Action

93 Community Protection warnings have been issued to residents for presenting household waste outside the agreed collection rules, of these 1 has progressed to the service of Community Protection Notice.

Council Plan Project – Chatham Centre Public Realm Improvements

Comments

Work started on site on 19 June 2017, with a ground breaking ceremony. Public realm improvement works from New Cut down to the Paddock are complete. The benches that were specially made with timber from the dockyard, have been installed, signage has been installed and the first phase of the improved street lighting is complete, as is the feature lighting across the arches at the old fire station at New Cut, and under New Cut Bridge. The detailed design for the Paddock is being finalised and preconstruction work is underway. The works will be completed by end of Q2 2019/20.

Council Plan Outcome: Medway on the map

Programme: Medway: a great place to live, work, learn and visit Project – Thinking Place

Comments

The new Medway Place Story launch on 7 June 2018 was well attended with many people pledging their support for the proposals and wanting to be part of the scheme.

Actions

Thanks to the success of this project, a powerful, modern and fresh place branding and narrative for Medway has been created. Local support for the campaign has been strong, and is growing further. The Medway story is increasingly recognised locally and outside of Medway. Highlights of the year have been:

- More than 100 people took part in the stakeholder workshops and events, and nearly 800 people took part in the online research into Medway the place.
- A strong Medway place branding toolkit has been created with a supporting photo library of powerful pictures of Medway.
- 130 people attended a high profile launch at the Dockyard in June with many signing a pledge to support the work.
- Three Place Board members have already committed £20k support for the campaign.
- In the autumn we successfully recruited a Medway Place Manager.
- Three Medway Champions events have been held at different Medway venues, attracting up to 60 attendees at each.
- 20 organisations have already signed up to become Medway Champions.
- A website is being created free of charge for WeAreMedway to communicate key messages about Medway the place and our Champions scheme.
- A range of collateral has been created for the Champions to use to demonstrate their support for Medway through their own marketing channels.
- Designs have been drawn up for new signage on the M2 HE for Medway and we are exploring amendments to Medway wayfinding signage.
- Discussions are taking place with Arriva and Southeastern to include branding on buses and stations across Medway.
- Created social media feeds on Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram for WeAreMedway with good early engagement.

Council Plan Project - Facilitate the delivery of Medway 2035 and Inward Investment

Comments

Medway Council is pursuing a range of projects and associated funding packages from a variety of sources, including the Government's Local Growth Fund, Growing Places Fund, Coastal Communities Fund and Housing Infrastructure Fund. These will assist to facilitate the creation of new business opportunities, such as Enterprise Zone status at Rochester Airport Technology Park, with the associated tax and planning benefits, to help secure a strong diversified local economy.

Action

During 2018/19 Medway 2035 has been developed with partners, stakeholders and residents from across Medway. On 18 December 2018, Cabinet noted the publication of a number of evidence base documents supporting the forthcoming Local Plan, including Medway 2035.

Council Plan Project - To seek funding opportunities to develop innovative public service solutions

Comments

In 2018/19 the Council secured 75% of bids submitted:

- Medway was one of five places in the country securing £1m from the Arts Council
 to deliver THEATRE31; a project to introduce 2000 children from across Medway
 and Isle of Sheppey, to theatre and performance.
- £240k from One Public Estate to bring forward public sector owned sites including: Temple Marsh remediation strategy, Hoo Healthy Living Centre feasibility options, and feasibility for the Docking Station (University of Kent) at Interface Land Chatham. The Docking Station concept could be funded by the successful Thames Estuary Cultural Development Fund.
- Kent County Council's successful £1,362,000 bid to tackle gang violence among young people. The youth service will work with Kent County Council and the Kent Police and Crime Commissioner to achieve positive results.
- Greenspaces Development secured £25,000 to deliver a Pocket Park at Chatham Town Hall Gardens, building on the success of the Pocket Park at Luton Millennium Green.
- £10,000 from the Rochester Bridge Trust to provide an added value project to Command of the Heights.

Action

The Council have submitted the full business case for the Housing Infrastructure Fund (March 2019). We are bidding for £170million for transport and additional essential planning infrastructure to unlock housing and growth on the Hoo Peninsula.

The Council have submitted an Expression of Interest for the Future High Streets Fund. If successful, we progress to business case stage where we explore delivery options to complement initiatives across the Council; improving gateways and wayfinding, diversifying the High Street offer towards leisure, and accelerate housing developments to have more people living in the town centre. This is an exciting opportunity and we will continue to co-develop with other departments, partners and engage with Members.

Council Plan - Cultural Programme

The Cultural Development Fund bid (CDF) was successful. This University of Kent-led partnership project will provide up to £100K towards feasibility studies for the establishment of a Creative Hub for Medway. We have also secured £50K from the One Public Estate fund (OPE) for feasibility works. Medway Council has representation on the CDF steering group, as well as the Thames Estuary Production Corridor (TEPC) board.

The Interface Land has been identified as a potential location for the Docking Station. Homes England are currently disposing of this site, and Medway Council Regeneration and Planning representatives will be on the tender assessment panel.

Council Plan Project - Dickens 2020: work with partners to develop programme of events to commemorate 150th anniversary of Dickens death

Actions

The Heritage and Tourism team continue to work closely with colleagues and external partners to develop a heritage programme which will form an integral part of the Dickens commemorations.

Dickens 150 will run from 10 – 14 June 2020 so as to respond to the actual anniversary of Dicken's death. The traditional Dickens Festival will be on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 June 2020 as part of the celebration and commemorations. The dates will also encourage greater participation as they are now in term time. Other signature events, with funding applications to Arts Council England include a grand community pageant of, 'The Funeral that never was'; and Dicken Desk trail across Chatham and Rochester spaces which have resonance with Dickens life and works.

A new permanent gallery is being planned at the Guildhall Museum, and is anticipated to open early in 2020. A fresh bid is likely to be submitted to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for restoration of the Dickens Chalet. Further opportunities will also be explored with internal and external partners, including Medway Tourism Association and the Cultural Partnership.

Council Plan Project - Guildhall Museum: agree a 10-year programme of exhibitions to maximise customer interest and reflect Medway's heritage

Comments

Due to the sale of the Conservancy Board Building in Nov 2018 plans for the 10 year programme of events at the Guildhall Museum have needed to be changed. Medway Council is in the process of developing an exciting permanent Charles Dickens Gallery in the touring exhibition space for 2020. This will act as an orientation point for visitors interested in Dickens, and tell the story of the man using stories from his childhood in Chatham and his return to Rochester in later life. A 10 year programme of exhibitions is now being planned for Eastgate House in Rochester to help drive income and footfall to his Elizabethan townhouse.

The Guildhall Museum has been successful in becoming a National Portfolio Organisation with funding from Arts Council England to develop an interpretation plan and improve visitor experience at the museum. Using best practise from other leading museums across Kent and the rest of the country this will result in a strategic gallery and interpretation plan for the Guildhall Museum for the next 10 years.

Council Priority: Maximising regeneration and economic growth

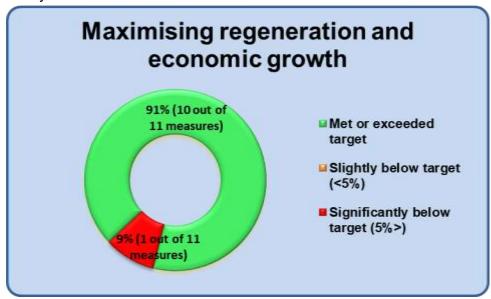
Performance: Quarter 4 & End of Year 2018/19

Key

Significantly below target (>5%)	Slightly below target (<5%)	met or exceeded targ	et
improved	worsened	= static	
data only, no target	N/A – data not available	Short – since last qtr.	Long – avg last 4 qtrs.
Benchmarking – compares favourably with national performance or standards	✓ Yes compares favourably	★ No does not compare favourably	= similar performance

Council Plan measures: summary performance

There are 12 Council Plan measures for this priority. We are reporting on 11 this quarter as 1 is data only.



Improved performance

- 73% (8 out of 11) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)
- 82% (9 out of 11) improved over the short term (since last quarter)

Highlights

- 506 intensive assists have been provided to businesses by Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce.
- 535 jobs have been created or safeguarded.
- 426 private sector properties improved against a target of 175

Measures in target (green)

Code	Status	Name	Long Term	Short Term
ECD13	S	% of square footage let at Innovation Centre Medway (ICM)	•	•
ECD20	>	% of square footage let in council owned business units	1	1
LRCC4a	>	Number of jobs created and safeguarded (cumulative)	1	1
MAE 2	>	% Retention rate	•	₽

Code	Status	Name	Long Term	Short Term
MAE 3	②	Achievement rate (pass rate)	1	1
NI 156	9	Number of households living in temporary accommodation		1
HC3	•	No. of households with dependent children in B&B who have resided there for 6+ weeks at the end of the quarter	•	
HC4	>	Number of private sector properties improved as a result of the Council's intervention		1
NI 117(16- 17)	>	The percentage of 16-17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)		•
NI 167 NEW	S	Average journey time along 5 routes across Medway (mins per mile) data only to December 2017 (Q3) from DfT	•	

Measures significantly below target (red)

Code	Status	Name	Long Term	Short Term
NI 154		Net additional homes provided	1	1

Data only

Code	Status	Name	Long Term	Short Term
GVAPJM		GVA per job	1	

Benchmarking/ Achieve National Standards

	Council Plan Performance Measure - Compares favourably with national performance or standards?	Yes ✓ No × Same =
MAE2 & MAE3	Attainment rate & Achievement rate MAE rated good by Ofsted	✓
.NI 156	Number of households living in temporary accommodation rate of households in temporary accommodation	✓

Council Plan Outcome: A strong diversified community

Programme: Business investment

Council Plan Measures: Performance

ECD1	3	% of square footage let at Innovation Centre Medway (ICM)						Aim to Maximise			
ı	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Targe t	Statu s
Q3 18/19	89.27 %	Q4 18/19	95.99%	90%	Ø	•	1	18/19	95.99 %	90%	

Comments

The Innovation Centre Medway has a total space to let of 17,859.34 sqft. The empty units vary, and as the sites are incubators there is always a "churn" of tenants coming and going, and moving within the building. At the end of Q4, 95.99% of the available space was occupied. Three offices were vacant. However, one of these has a new tenant

identified expected in April 2019.

There are no specific trends in the nature of the vacant units at the ICM, and the Council has historically been able to adapt to need.

ECD20	0	% of squa	of square footage let in council owned business units						Aim to Maximise			
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Targe t	Statu s	
Q3 18/19	89.36 %	Q4 18/19	92.48%	90%	>	•	•	18/19	92.48 %	90%		

Comments

Council owned business units included in this measure are Hopewell Drive, Pier Road, and Innovation Studios Medway and Innovation Centre Medway totalling 43,160 sq. ft. Units across the sites vary in size from approx. 120sqft to 1,500 sq. ft.

At the end of Q4, three workspace units are recorded as available at Innovation Centre Medway, with one having identified tenants in the process of signing licence agreements. There is one vacant unit at the Innovation Studios and five vacant units at the other two Council owned sites, of which one has an identified tenant.

Overall therefore, nine units are available for business rental, and are currently being marketed, from a total of 119.

GVAPJ M	GVA per job	Aim to Maximise	
2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	LONG TREND (5yr)
£50,415	£51,465	£52,464	•

Comments

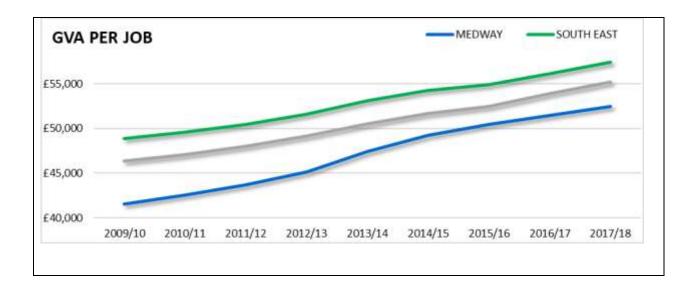
This data is published by the Office of National Statistics and is released in December each year. Data is available up to 2017/18.

Given the volatility with the raw data and because the smoothed data is weighted, <u>year on year comparisons should not be made</u>. GVA per filled job is better considered over a longer period. Trends over a longer period are less likely to be the result of the volatility around any single year estimate and are more likely to be showing a change in the economic performance of Medway.

Actions

Medway GVA per job is currently 4.9% lower than England, a 5.4 percentage point improvement from 2009 where Medway was 10.3% lower. From 2012 to 2017, Medway's GVA per job has increased by 16.2%, which Is above England (12.2%), South East (11.2%).

Benchmarking



Council Plan Project - Continue to encourage and help facilitate the growth of businesses in Medway

In total this year 506 intensive assists have been delivered to start up and established businesses. This comprises 307 individual business planning workshops and 199 one to one business appointments. In Q4 Portfolio Holders hosted a business lunch on 5 February, attended by 18 of the larger Medway businesses and representatives from higher education and further education, at which the Medway Skills plan was presented and discussed.

Project - Ensure Medway's regeneration agenda delivers economic growth, increasing high value businesses and high quality employment, and creating jobs and inward investment.

Action

To date 535 jobs have been created/protected against an annual target of 300. This comprises of 379 jobs created and 156 protected. New investments in Medway this year include D&G Assist opening a new facility at Medway City Estate creating 35 jobs and Amazon opening at Kingsnorth creating 200 jobs (awaiting final confirmation). Wincanton at Kingsnorth created a further 40 jobs bring their total to 140. Businesses moving into Council workspace including the Innovation Centre and Innovation Studios accounted for a total of 34 jobs.

Project - Development of Innovation Park Medway (IPM) (maximising the benefits Enterprise Zone status brings) to provide the right infrastructure for business success

Action

LGF2 Rochester Airport Improvement Works - Planning Approval was granted for Control Tower & Hub and Helipads in December 2018. Medway Council are undertaking the infrastructure works directly with the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) grant funding. Kier Ltd was appointed in March 2019 to carry out the construction works, which are programmed to be complete by March 2020. Electrical enabling works were complete in January 2019.

LGF3 Innovation Park Medway - The draft masterplan has been finalised and consultation concluded on 29 October 2018. The masterplan was adopted by Medway

Council's Cabinet on 5 March 2019, and by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council's Cabinet on 19 March 2019, subject to Highways England agreement. A simplified planning mechanism for the site in the form of Local Development Order, is being developed; Medway Council has approved the consultation of the Local Development Order and is subject to Tonbridge and Malling approval.

The business case for LGF3 was submitted to South East Local Enterprise Partnership in January and was approved at the Accountability Board in February.

GPF Southern Site - Growing Places Funding (GPF) will begin to be drawn down so that the access road and associated infrastructure can be delivered on the southern site (alongside ICM). Design begins in January for circa six months.

Council Plan Outcome: Resident with jobs and skills

Programme: Jobs, Skill and Employability

Council Plan Measures: Performance

NI 117(1 17)		percentag loyment o	Aiı	Aim to Minimise							
Quarterly									An	nual	
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Target	Status
Q3 2018/19	2.50%	Q4 2018/19	2.80%	6.00%		-	1	2018/1 9	2.80%	6.00%	②

Comments

The latest published data is up to February 2019. At this point 2.8% of 16-17 year olds were classed as NEET. This is equates to 178 young people. Due to the cyclical nature of this measure comparisons are made to the position 12 months ago rather than from quarter to quarter. At the end of February 2018 there were 228 young people classed as NEET, which equated to 3.5% of the cohort. This means that, like for like against last year there has been a 20% reduction on the percentage of 16 and 17 year olds classed as NEET.

The rate of young people for whose activity is not known is 3.8%, this represents 239 young people. This is an 82% reduction on last February when the rate in Medway was 21.3%.

Currently there are 6 LAC 16&17 year olds who are NEET and less than 5 whose status is Not Known. This is very similar to February 2018. There are less than 5 young people known to the Youth Offending team who are NEET again this is comparable to last year. 11 SEND are NEET and 6 are recorded as activity not known. The NEET figure is a small increase on the 11 NEET in February 2018 but the not known number this year (6) is almost a quarter of the 23 in February 2018, reflecting the good work done in this area.

Benchmarking

Nationally the rate of NEETs is 2.7% and the South East rate is 2.5%. Whilst these are better than Medway it is important to note that in February 2018 the National rate was 2.8% and the regional rate 2.3%. This means that Medway has made better progress (a

20% reduction year on year) than National, which has made a 4% reduction and the South East which has worsened by 8%.

Medway's rate of 16-17 year olds whose activity is unknown is still higher than the national rate of 2.2% and the South East rate of 2.5%

Actions

Work to reduce the level of young people whose activity is unknown continues. The information Advice and Guidance (IAG) team are actively engaged with local schools and colleges to share information. Significant work is being done to ensure the cleanliness of the database, which supports efficient work. The IAG team are working closely with the key vulnerable groups and progress has been seen in relation to the SEN group.

LRCC4	RCC4a Number of jobs created and safeguarded (cumulative)						Aim to Maximise				
	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Targe t	Statu s
Q3 18/19	495	Q4 18/19	535	300	②	•	1	18/19	535	300	

Comments

To date 535 jobs have been created/protected against an annual target of 300. This comprises of 379 jobs created and 156 protected.

Action

New investments in Medway this year include D&G Assist opening a new facility at Medway City Estate creating 35 jobs and Amazon opening at Kingsnorth creating 200 jobs (awaiting final confirmation). Wincanton at Kingsnorth created a further 40 jobs bring their total to 140. Businesses moving into Council workspace including the Innovation Centre and Innovation Studios accounted for a total of 34 jobs.

Project - A Skills Plan for Medway will be completed in 2018.

Comments

This plan will incorporate the objectives of the 16 – 18 Youth Strategy, alongside interests such as apprenticeships, degree apprenticeship and internships to support lifelong learning.

The Medway Skills Board was established in 2017 to prioritise skills development in target sectors and to ensure that all residents benefit from growth. The Skills Board (Members and Officers' Boards) is responding to national, regional and local policy in its work to establish Medway's five skills priorities. Working with the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP), Skills Advisory Group and the Kent and Medway Skills Commission, the Board is ensuring that Medway's skills priorities are embedded in wider policy development.

The four skills priorities focus effort on 1) Matching Business Demand and Skills Supply, 2) Developing Medway's Talent Pool, 3) Eliminating Barriers to Employment and 4) Transforming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) to EETs.

Action

The plan was approved by Cabinet on 5 March 2019 and will be published imminently.

Council Plan Outcome: Delivering new homes to meet the needs of Medway's residents

Programme: Delivering new homes to meet the needs of Medway's

residents

Council Plan Measures: Performance

NI 154	Net additional	Aim to Maximise				
2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	TARGET	STATUS	LONG TREND	SHORT TREND
553	642	680	1,000		•	1

Comments

This data has been published in the Council's Authority Monitoring Report and is available on the website.

The main findings from the Monitoring Report include the completion of 680 dwellings in 2017/18, which is a 6% increase from the previous year.

Actions

Housebuilding rates are still recovering from difficult market conditions in recent years. There are signs of growing confidence in development in Medway, such as progress seen in large regeneration schemes such as Rochester Riverside, Kitchener Barracks, Chatham Waters, Victory Pier, Chatham Maritime including St Marys Island and Temple Waterfront. There are also over 1202 homes known to be under construction. 88% of the homes built in 17/18 were on previously developed land. However, rates of development are below the Council's adopted housing target of 1000 homes a year. The government has directed local planning authorities to use its 'Standard Method' for calculating Local Housing Need. Medway Council will reflect this updated calculation of annual housing need in the Regulation 19 draft Local Plan when it is published in summer 2019.

Benchmarking

The development industry is also delivering significantly fewer new homes than the 1281 dwellings per annum identified in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment as Medway's objectively assessed need for housing. The introduction of the proposed Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) standard method for calculating housing need would lift the annual figure to 1665 homes. It is questionable if this scale of housing could be delivered by the development industry.

Council Plan Project - Preparation of the new Medway Local Plan

Comments

Report on Local Plan presented to Cabinet in December 2018. Cabinet agreed revised Local Development Scheme, which delays production of draft Local Plan until early summer. The reasons for this are due to continual Government changes to housing and population projections and the need to await outcome of the housing infrastructure fund decision.

Council Plan Outcome: Getting around Medway

Programme: Tackle congestion hotspots by transport and public realm improvements

Council Plan Measures: Performance

NI 167	(New	Average journey time along 5 routes across Medway (mins per mile)						Aim to Minimise			
l	Value		Value	Target	Status	Long Trend	Short Trend		Value	Targe t	Statu s
Q2 17/18	3.49	Q3 17/18	3.86	4	②	•	1	18/19	N/A	N/A	N/A

Comments

The journey time indicator is still being calculated using DfT issued Trafficmaster data. As of January 2019 DfT have issued data up to December 2017. Officers enquired with DfT as to when the next tranche of data will be released; DfT confirmed that data for the calendar year 2018 will be released in April 2019.

Action

The Council continues to effectively manage the Medway network using a variety of tools: The Traffic Operations Room by responding to numerous network incidents each day i.e. vehicle breakdowns. The Council provide traffic updates as they occur to KCC, Police and update social media to ensure traffic flow across Medway is maintained. Management of Streetworks - Q4 the Council managed 3,817 street work notices this is similar to previous year's performance. The first year operation of the Streetworks Permit Scheme was reviewed by external consultants. Officers reviewed their recommendations in Q3/4 to improve the scheme efficiency. Traffic officers continue to work closely with colleagues in the Council who manage Local Growth Fund projects ensuring impact on traffic flows is kept to a minimum.

The future prosperity of Medway depends on the prospect of continuing economic growth. The provision of adequate infrastructural investment of new and improved roads is fundamental to enable economic development to come to Medway. In conjunction with these infrastructure developments is the need to meet the challenge of social and environmental objectives of cleaner air and providing a pleasant environment in which to live, work and learn.

Medway Council is committed to enable citizens, visitors and business to move around Medway's road network easily and in the way they choose, i.e. car, public transport, cycling and on foot; encouraging sustainable transport where possible. The connectivity of transport hubs, leisure, shopping and health facilities is at the forefront of our planning so that there is an integrated approach to travel throughout Medway.

Council Plan Projects - Achieve Level 3 Award with DfT

Comments

Department of Transport (DFT) introduced an Annual Self-Assessment Process for Highway Authorities in 2015-16 that measures how Highway Authorities manage the Highway Network in respect of:

- Asset Management (Policy & Strategy)
- Resilience
- Customer
- Benchmarking & Efficiency
- Operational Services Delivery

The Self-Assessment operates on a banding score of 1-3 and Medway are currently self-assessed as a Band 3 Highway Authority being able to demonstrate outputs that support the implementation of key areas that will lead towards improvement. Band 3 is the highest band score a Local Highway Authority can secure and this resulted in Medway securing an Incentive Fund allocation of £430,000 this financial year for allocating to Highway maintenance.

Actions

Key work-streams delivered during Q4 to support the self-assessment for 2018-19 (submitted 1 February 2019) have been:

- A programme of on-line Asset Management Training for all Key Highway Staff was completed in January 2019.
- The Evidence base for the Self-Assessment submission was completed in January 2019.
- Updated the governance protocols for DFT Self-Assessment including an Annual reporting cycle (each November) to Directorate Management Team
- Engaged an external Consultant to undertake a mock audit of Medway's performance in Q4 to identify a lessons learnt registrar. From next Financial Year the DFT have confirmed that they be implementing a programme of Audits for DFT Self-Assessment.

Subject to DFT confirming Medway's Self-Assessment being a Band 3 for 2019-20 Medway will secure block funding of £427K to fund Highway Improvements next financial year.

Project - Transport and public realm improvements for Strood completed by March 2019

Actions

During Q4, resurfacing works on Commercial Road have been completed and the zebra crossings at the junction with Commercial Road are now fully operational. Footway reconstruction works have continued along the High Street and planters and tree pits have been installed, with planting to be completed later in the season.

Traffic signals have been removed and replaced with a new pedestrian crossing on North Street and a more direct signalised crossing on High Street, to further improve traffic flow. New LED street lighting has been installed across the scheme area. The architectural lighting schemes for St Nicholas Church and the railway arches have continued to be progressed through the relevant legal and clearance processes with the Church and Network Rail

A comprehensive communication plan has been developed to provide residents, businesses and Councillors with advance notice of the next phase of works; the resurfacing of the High Street due to start in Q1 2019/20. All works continue to be planned in co-ordination with emergency services, bus operators and other projects in the area to minimise disruption. The project web page has continued to be updated and promoted as the project has progressed: www.medway.gov.uk/yournewstrood.

Project - Support the development of Chatham Railway Station

Comments

Medway Council is working in partnership with Network Rail to deliver a transformed Chatham Railway Station. Match funding from Medway Council is from the Local Growth Fund, as part of the Chatham Place making Project.

Action

Network Rail is leading on this project and the Chatham Placemaking contractor will complete the paving works to the station forecourt and road. The works started in December 2018 and are anticipated to be completed by end Q2 2019/20.