

CABINET

21 NOVEMBER 2023

COUNCIL PLAN PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT AND STRATEGIC RISK SUMMARY – QUARTER 2 2023/24

Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Vince Maple, Leader of the Council
Report co-ordinated by:	Phil Watts, Chief Operating Officer
Contributors:	Children and Adults – Directorate Management Team Regeneration, Culture and Environment – Directorate Management Team Public Health Business Support

Summary

Medway's Council Plan 2023/24 sets out the Council's three priorities and the measures used to monitor performance. This report and appendices summarise how we performed in Q2 2023/24 on the delivery of these priorities and the actions we are taking to improve performance.

This report also presents the Q2 2023/24 review of strategic risks.

1. Recommendations

- 1.1. The Cabinet is asked to note the Q2 2023/24 performance against the measures used to monitor progress against the Council's priorities.
- 1.2. The Cabinet is asked to agree the Strategic Risk Summary set out at Appendix 4 to the report.

2. Suggested reasons for decisions

- 2.1. Regular monitoring of performance and risks by management and Members is best practice and ensures achievement of corporate objectives.

3. Budget and policy framework

- 3.1. The Council Plan 2023/24 was agreed at Full Council in February 2023. It sets out the Council's three priorities and six values which aim to deliver these priorities. It includes the measures we use to track performance. These measures are refreshed annually.
- 3.2. Risk management is an integral part of good governance. The Council recognises that it has a responsibility to identify and manage the barriers to achieve its

strategic objectives and enhance the value of services it provides to the community. The Cabinet has responsibility to ensure the effective operation of risk management in the Council.

3.3. This report summarises Council Plan performance and presents the updated Strategic Risk Summary for Q2 2023/24. It will also be presented to:

Business Support Overview & Scrutiny	30 November
Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny	05 December
Health and Adult Social Care Overview & Scrutiny	07 December
Regeneration, Culture and Environment Overview & Scrutiny	14 December

4. Background

4.1. Summaries of the performance of the programmes supporting each of the Council's priorities, and the actions we are taking to improve performance, can be found in:

- Appendix 1 Council Priority: People
- Appendix 2 Council Priority: Place
- Appendix 3 Council Priority: Growth

4.2. Risk owners have reviewed and updated their risks. Summaries of risks can be found in:

Appendix 4 Strategic Risk Summary

4.3. No risks have been added to, or removed from, the Strategic Risk Summary this review.

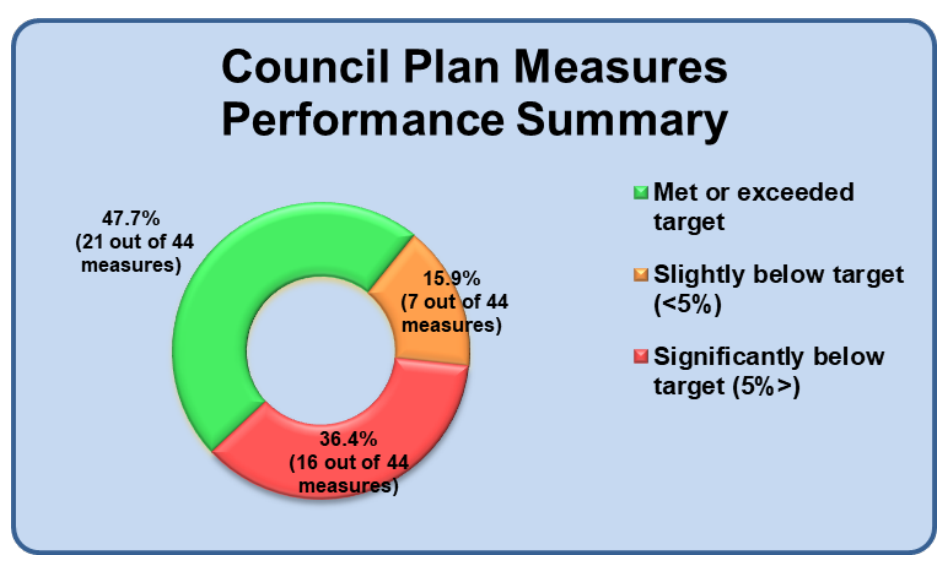
4.4. The current score has changed on the following strategic risk:

- SR56 Children's Social Care Budget Pressure from AI to All

5. Summary of performance

5.1. Performance summary – across Council Plan Priorities

There are 47 Council Plan measures for 2023/24. We are reporting on 44 as data for 2 measures is not available this quarter and 1 measure is data only.



Improved performance

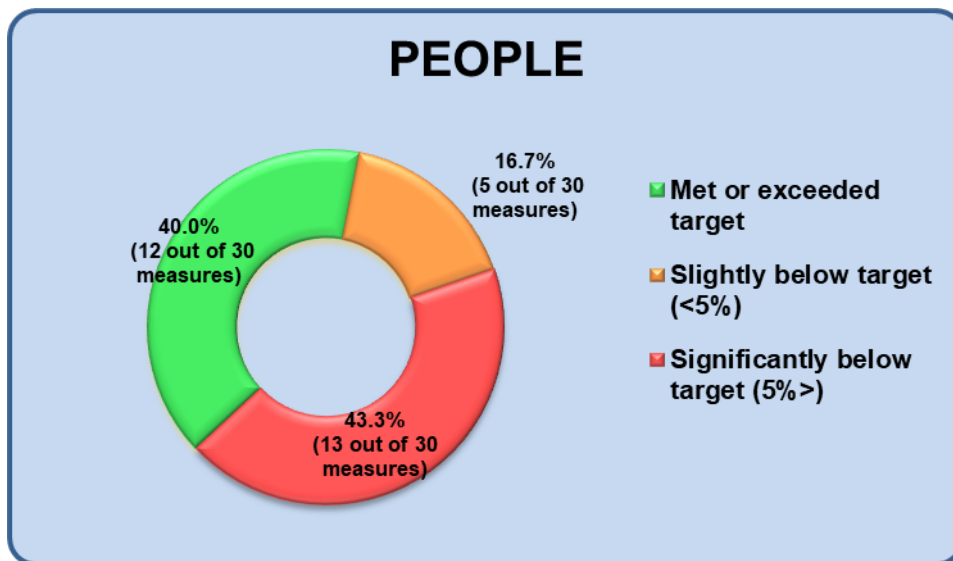
- 43.2% (19 out of 44*) improved short term (since last quarter)
- 42.2% (19 out of 45*) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)
*where data available

5.2. Performance summary – by Council Plan priority

This section includes performance highlights supporting the Council priorities.

5.2.1. Priority – People

There are 32 Council Plan measures for this priority. We are reporting on 30 as data for 2 measures is not available this quarter.

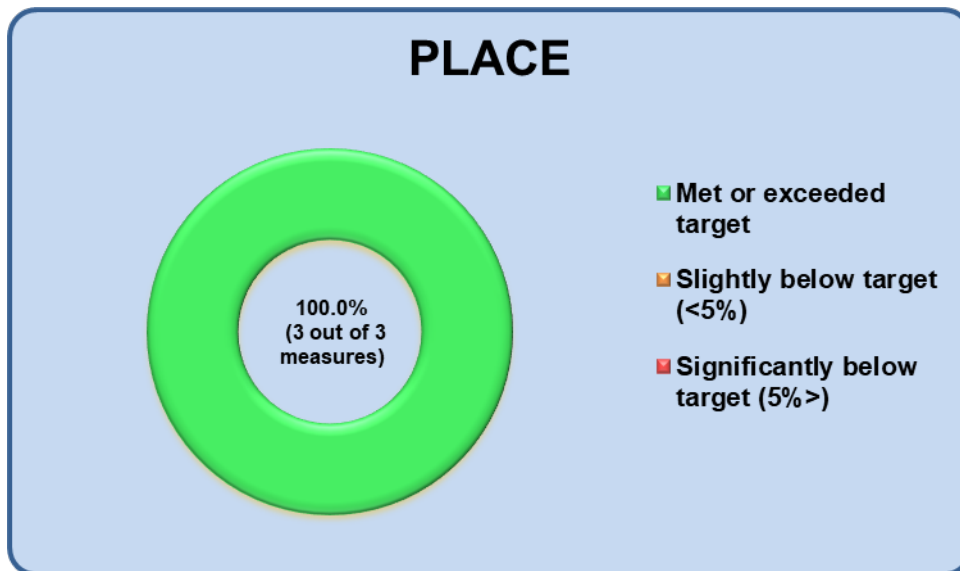


Improved performance

- 41.4% (12 out of 29*) improved over the short term (since last quarter)
- 43.3% (13 out of 30*) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)
*where data available

5.2.2. Priority – Place

There are 3 Council Plan measures for this priority.

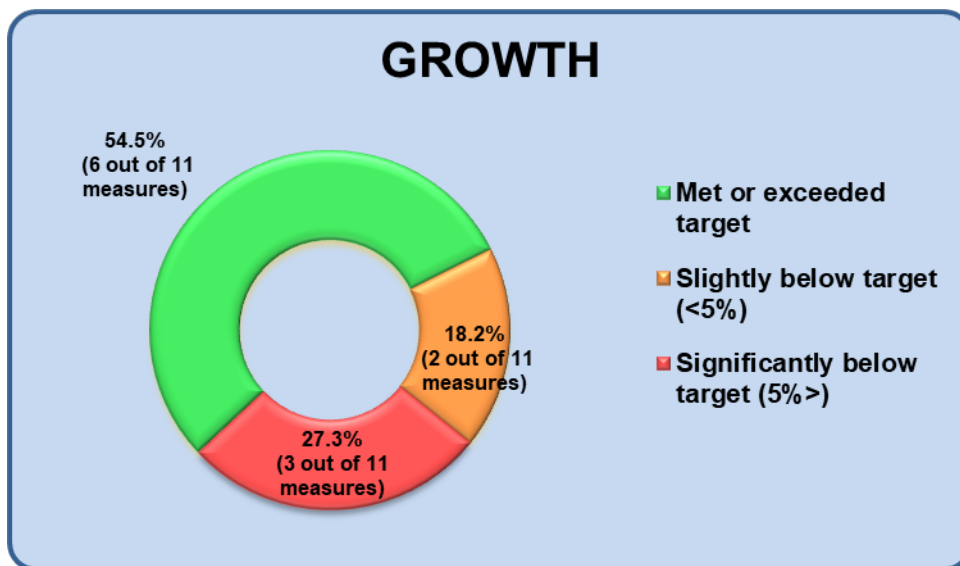


Improved performance

- 66.7% (2 out of 3*) improved over the short term (since last quarter)
 - 100% (3 out of 3*) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)
- *where data available

5.2.3. Priority – Growth

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



Improved performance

- 41.7% (5 out of 12*) improved over the short term (since last quarter)
 - 25.0% (3 out of 12*) improved long term (average of previous 4 quarters)
- *where data available

5.3. Performance summary – Values

This section includes performance highlights supporting the Values.

There are 2 Council Plan measures for the Values:

- FIN 18: Unmodified value for money (VFM) conclusion from external auditors

The 2021/22 value for money (VFM) review concluded that there were weaknesses in the Council's arrangements to deliver VfM, principally the Ofsted rating of Inadequate received for Children's Social Care in 2019, the late publication of financial accounts and governance arrangements relating to its subsidiaries.

- Fin 12: Unmodified audit opinion on statement of accounts
The 2021/22 audit opinion was unmodified.

6. Risk management

- 6.1. Implementation of a performance management and risk framework allows the Council to evidence how successful it is in achieving against its stated objectives, and for residents it provides genuine accountability on how successfully the Council is administering its resources. The risk of inaccurate data being reported to Members is minimised through authorisation by Directorate and Corporate Management Teams. Assurance can therefore be placed on the accuracy of data used to assess performance. By reporting to Members, the risk of poor performance not being identified or addressed is minimised.
- 6.2. The Risk Management process helps the Council understand, evaluate, and act on all their risks. It supports effective decision making, identification of priorities and objectives and increases the probability of success by making the most of opportunities and reducing the likelihood of failure.
- 6.3. The Council's Risk Management Strategy incorporates and:
- promotes a common understanding of risk.
 - outlines roles and responsibilities across the Council.
 - proposes a methodology that identifies and manages risk in accordance with best practice thereby seeking to prevent injury, damage, and loss.

7. Financial and legal implications

- 7.1. There are no direct finance or legal implications arising from this report.

Lead officer contact

Lesley Jones, Corporate Performance Lead. 01634 332472
lesley.jones@medway.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix 1	Council Priority: People
Appendix 2	Council Priority: Place
Appendix 3	Council Priority: Growth
Appendix 4	Strategic Risk Summary

Background papers

[Council Strategy and Plan 2023/24](#)