

# Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Dorset County Council**



Date of Meeting	13 March 2018
Officer	<p><u>Local Members</u> All Members <u>Lead Directors</u> Nick Jarman, Interim Director for Children’s Services</p>
Subject of Report	<b>Outcomes Focused Monitoring Report, March 2018</b>
Executive Summary	<p>The 2017-18 Corporate Plan sets out the four outcomes towards which the County Council is committed to working, alongside our partners and communities: to help people in Dorset be <b>Safe, Healthy and Independent</b>, with a <b>Prosperous</b> economy. The Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee has oversight of the <b>SAFE</b> corporate outcome.</p> <p>The Corporate Plan includes objective and measurable <b>population indicators</b> by which progress towards outcomes can be better understood, evaluated and influenced. No single agency is accountable for these indicators - accountability is shared between partner organisations and communities themselves.</p> <p>This is the fourth and final monitoring report against the 2017-18 corporate plan. As well as the most up to date available data on the population indicators within the “Safe” outcome, the report includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Performance measures</b> by which the County Council can measure the contribution and impact of its own services and activities on the outcomes;</li> <li>• <b>Risk management</b> information, identifying the current level of risks on the corporate risk register that relate to our outcomes and the population indicators associated with them.</li> </ul> <p>The Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee is encouraged to consider the information in this report, scrutinise the evidence and commentaries provided, and decide if it is comfortable with the trends. If appropriate, members may wish to</p>

	consider and identify a more in-depth review of specific areas, to inform their scrutiny activity.
Impact Assessment:	<b>Equalities Impact Assessment:</b> There are no specific equalities implications in this report. However, the prioritisation of resources in order to challenge inequalities in outcomes for Dorset’s people is fundamental to the Corporate Plan.
	<b>Use of Evidence:</b> The outcome indicator data in this report is drawn from a number of local and national sources, including the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) and the Public Health Outcomes Framework (PHOF). There is a lead officer for each outcome whose responsibility it is to ensure that data is accurate and timely and supported by relevant commentary.
	<b>Budget:</b> The information contained in this report is intended to facilitate evidence driven scrutiny of the interventions that have the greatest impact on outcomes for communities, as well as activity that has less impact. This can help with the identification of cost efficiencies that are based on the least impact on the wellbeing of customers and communities.
	<b>Risk:</b> Having considered the risks associated with this report using the County Council’s approved risk management methodology, the level of risk has been identified as: Current: Medium Residual: Low However, where “high” risks from the County Council’s risk register link to elements of service activity covered by this report, they are clearly identified.
	<b>Other Implications:</b> None
Recommendation	<b>That the committee:</b>  i) Considers the evidence of Dorset’s position with regard to the outcome indicators in Appendix 1; and:  ii) Identifies any issues requiring more detailed consideration through focused scrutiny activity.
Reason for Recommendation	The 2017-18 Corporate Plan provides an overarching strategic framework for monitoring progress towards good outcomes for Dorset. The Overview and Scrutiny committees provide corporate governance and performance monitoring arrangements so that progress against the corporate plan can be monitored effectively.

## Outcomes focused monitoring report

Appendices	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Population and Performance March 2017 – <b>Safe</b></li><li>2. Financial benchmarking information: Adult Social Care</li><li>3. Value for Money: Economy and the Environment</li><li>4. Value for Money: Children's Services</li></ol>
Background Papers	<p><i>Dorset County Council Corporate Plan 2017-18</i>, Cabinet, 28 June 2017</p> <p><a href="https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/corporate-plan-outcomes-framework">https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/corporate-plan-outcomes-framework</a></p>
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## **1.0 Corporate Plan 2017-18: Dorset County Council's Outcomes and Performance Framework**

- 1.1 The corporate plan includes a set of "population indicators", selected to measure progress towards the four outcomes. No single agency is accountable for these indicators - accountability is shared between partner organisations and communities themselves. For each indicator, it is for councillors, officers and partners to challenge the evidence and commentaries provided, and decide if they are comfortable that the direction of travel is acceptable, and if not, identify and agree what action needs to be taken.
- 1.2 Each indicator has one or more associated **service performance measures**, which measure the County Council's own specific contribution to, and impact upon, corporate outcomes. For example, one of the outcome indicators for the "Safe" outcome is "The number of people who are killed or seriously injured on Dorset's roads". A performance measure for the County Council on this is "The percentage of roads in need of maintenance", since one of the ways we improve road safety is to ensure that roads are kept in good condition.
- 1.3 Unlike with the population indicators, the County Council is directly accountable for the progress (or otherwise) of performance measures, since they reflect the degree to which we are making the best use of our resources to make a positive difference to the lives of our own customers and service users.
- 1.4 Where relevant, this report also presents **risk management** information in relation to each population indicator, identifying the current level of risks on the corporate register that relate to our four outcomes.
- 1.5 Efforts continue to present an analysis of the **value for money** of County Council services to sit alongside the performance information in this report. In the interim, Appendix 2 of this report provides financial benchmarking information for Adult Social Care, Appendix 3 provides a value for money analysis of some key areas of work for the Environment and the Economy Directorate, and Appendix 4 provides equivalent information for Children's Services.
- 1.6 Outcome lead officers work to ensure that the commentaries on each page of these monitoring reports reflect the strategies the County Council has in place in order to improve each aspect of each outcome for residents. So for example, with the road traffic accidents indicator discussed above, the commentary seeks to explain the strategies we have in place to make improvements – including highway maintenance – and then report on the success of those strategies.
- 1.7 Members are encouraged to consider all of the indicators and associated information that fall within the remit of this committee at Appendix 1, scrutinise the evidence and commentaries provided, and decide if they are comfortable with the direction of travel. If appropriate, members may wish to consider a more in-depth review of specific areas.

## **2.0 Suggested area of focus**

- 2.1 At the beginning of Appendix 1, there is a summary of progress with all of the population indicators and performance measures, and some suggestions for areas upon which the committee might wish to focus its consideration and scrutiny. These areas have been highlighted because they are currently showing a worsening trend. They are briefly summarised below, and full commentaries are provided within the body of the main reports, including the strategies currently in place to drive improvement.

## 2.2 Population Indicators

### 2.2.1 *SAFE 06: Rates of crime, anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse*

The 3 year trend is an increase in total crime both in Dorset and nationally, including total crime, anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse crime. Although this is partly due to improvements in Police recording standards and an increased willingness by people to report crime, it is generally understood that in some categories crime is increasing. Partners including Dorset Police and the local authorities are exploring the issues through their partnership groups (including the Dorset Community Safety Partnership) with the aim of putting interventions and solutions in place.

During 2017-18, the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee has focused on domestic abuse, and the People and Communities Committee has reviewed race and hate crime. Beyond that, this committee has so far not chosen to focus on rising crime and antisocial behaviour rates more generally. Members may wish to discuss whether any further review activity would be appropriate on this issue.

## 2.3 Performance measures

### 2.3.1 *Children in need rate per 10,000*

There has been a steady increase in the rate of children identified as being "in need", and between quarter two and quarter three of 2017-18 it rose from 156.5 per 10,000 to 186.3 per 10,000. This performance measure relates to the effectiveness of our early help services - if early help services are working successfully, then we should expect to see a reduction in the number of 'children in need', because needs would be being met earlier. This should then contribute to fewer children needing a Child Protection Plan, and ultimately, fewer children coming into local authority care. There is a separate outcomes report on early intervention and prevention elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.

### 2.3.2 *No. of individuals who have completed support via the Dorset Integrated Domestic Abuse Service*

There has been a slight fall in the number of individuals completing support, from 192 in the second quarter, to 175 in the third quarter of 2017-18.

### 2.3.3 *First time entrants aged 10 to 17 into the criminal justice system*

This increased from 219 to 257 between the first and second quarters of 2017-17.

### 2.3.4 *Skid resistance – non-principal roads*

There is a declining trend in the skid resistance of non-principal roads. There has however been an improvement in Principal A Road skid resistance due to investment in parts of the highway network where data highlighted potential risks. The new strategy has been further enhanced with £1million further investment in 2018-19, targeting sites with a high risk of collisions based on skid data, collision history, and perceived risk (due to road layout, etc.). The majority of priority, high risk, sites have been on the principal network in the past 12 months, therefore whilst this has improved, the non-principal network has declined.

### **3.0 Summary of Committee Activity in Response to Outcome Reports**

#### **3.1 Domestic abuse**

An inquiry day took place on 17 October 2017 involving the Police, CCG, victim representatives, volunteer agencies, Public Health, the Community Safety Partnership, and front-line staff, and members themselves. The day was considered successful in terms of raising awareness of the key issues, and the committee asked the Cabinet to support further targeted activity in furtherance of enhanced whole family approaches and improved mapping of service pathways. An update on progress will be considered by the committee at its July meeting.

#### **3.2 Children in Care/ children subject to a Child Protection Plan**

Outcomes reports have focused on the above twice during the course of the year so far. The rate of children subject to a Child Protection Plan in Dorset increased between 2013 and 2017 and was higher than the national figure, but this has now begun to reduce. The rate of children in care increased steadily until 2016 but is now reducing and was 57.6 per 10,000 at the end of Q3 17-18, which is lower than the national rate. The interim Director for Children's Services is the lead officer for the Safeguarding Committee and has therefore engaged in discussions around these issues, explaining the County Council's strategies to decrease the average caseload of social workers, improve our approach to fostering, adoption and special guardianship, and promote early intervention through Family Partnership Zones and other activities.

#### **3.3 People killed or seriously injured on Dorset's roads**

There has been a consistent focus on road traffic accidents throughout the year by the committee. The number of people killed or seriously injured during the 12 months to September 2017 was 224 - a 16% reduction compared to the same period in 2016. Despite the reducing trend, the figure remains higher than in previous years, in line with regional and national trends. The committee set up a Task and Finish Group working with the Collision Reduction and Traffic Engineering Team. The group agreed to review and update the existing Road Casualty Reduction Plan, with the aim of identifying opportunities for new interventions while remaining realistic about what would make a difference in terms of casualties and people killed. The focus has been on reviewing rural routes and targeting the worst affected areas with local interventions such as establishing hard standing spots to enable mobile speed cameras to be positioned.