

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 23 JUNE 2011

2010/11 STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

Report by Executive Director of Finance & Corporate Support

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To submit the Annual Performance Report for 2010/11 to the Council and to seek approval of proposed arrangements for its publication and distribution.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** The 2008 Direction from the Accounts Commission introduced significant changes in the approach to SPIs. Most notably, there has been a reduction in the total number of SPIs from 58 to 25. The Direction also challenged councils to look beyond the 25 prescribed SPIs and determine their own performance reporting requirements, based on Best Value criteria. As a result, the Council will be reporting on a further 51 Local SPIs in 2010/11. This provides the Council with a total of 76 national and local SPIs for 2010/11.
- 2.2** This report advises of the Council's performance against the agreed suite of 76 Statutory Performance Indicators and of arrangements for the publication and distribution of the new Annual Performance Report.

3. 2010/11 PERFORMANCE INFORMATION AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 3.1** Details of the Council's performance in 2010/11 against the agreed suite of 76 SPIs is provided in the 2010/11 Annual Performance Report (APR), a copy of which is included at Appendix 1.
- 3.2** As well as performance data, the APR also includes:
- appropriate contextual analysis in respect of a number of indicators that are considered to be of specific interest to the general public;
 - a summary of the main audits and inspections that have been carried out by external bodies in the previous year;
 - a high level summary of the Council's income and expenditure; and
 - links to web pages containing more detail on both audits and inspections and the Council's financial accounts for 2010/11.

3.3 Council should note that, in the case of a small number of indicators (all of which are highlighted in the APR) 2010/11 data will not be available until later in this financial year. When this data becomes available, the online version of the report will be updated.

3.4 It is proposed that the APR will be published both on the Council's website and in the form of a booklet to be made available at all local offices and libraries.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The current approach to the publication and distribution of the APR was instigated in 2009/10. It delivers a recurring saving to the Council of approximately £25,000 per year in staff time and printing and delivery costs when compared to the arrangements that were in place prior to 2009/10.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The in-house production and early publication of the APR will ensure compliance with Audit Scotland's guidance on Public Performance Reporting.

5.2 It is a statutory requirement for the Council's policy to publish information relating to Statutory Performance Indicators by 30 September each year. This will be achieved by placing the Annual Performance Report on the Council's web-site and by making it available in local offices and libraries.

6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Local Government Act 1992 lays a duty upon each council to have in place such arrangements for collecting, recording and publishing performance data to comply with SPI Direction Notices and to ensure that, so far as is practicable, everything published is accurate and complete. The Local Government in Scotland Act 2003, requires councils to make public the information relating to the previous year's Statutory Performance Indicators by 30 September each year.

6.2 The External Auditors have a statutory duty to ensure that they are satisfied that the Council has made such arrangements as required. The arrangements outlined within this report seek to ensure compliance with all statutory requirements.

7. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The reporting contained within the Annual Performance Report is structured around the four Community Planning themes, providing appropriate and robust links. Several indicators also contribute to the Council's Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) and the whole document complements the Community Planning Partnership SOA Annual Performance Report.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 It is recommended that Council:

- (i) notes the contents of the 2010/11 Annual Performance Report, including the audited 2010/11 Statutory Performance Indicators;
- (ii) approves the arrangements for publication of the information;
- (iii) otherwise notes the contents of this report.

Alex McPhee
Executive Director of Finance & Corporate Support
9 June 2011

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Audit Scotland, 'A New Direction: SPI Guidance for Audited Bodies' 2010/11
2. Audit Scotland, 'Statutory Performance Information: The 2008 Direction - A Guide for Auditors'

Implementation Officer: Robert Moore, Best Value and Performance Officer