

EXECUTIVE

5 SEPTEMBER 2023

CORPORATE PLAN SUCCESS FRAMEWORK 2023-24 - QUARTER 1

STATEMENT FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT BOARD

On 24 August 2023, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board agreed to support the recommendations to the Executive.

The following specific comments and clarifications arose during the Board's discussion:

- PI 36, PI 37, PI 38 and PI 39 – Household Waste – The Board welcomed that further research would be undertaken both locally and nationally on the reasons for the lower levels of waste. The reasons suggested for these lower levels of waste included changes in behaviours, such as increased use of reselling websites and other re-use options; and household budget constraints reducing consumption. The Board was advised that fly-tipping tended to relate more to commercial rather than household waste, so was less likely to be a cause. Referring to the most preferred options in the waste hierarchy, prevention and re-use, the Board accepted that statistics on these were difficult to compile.

The Board was assured that the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee regularly considered this topic and would continue to do so.

- PI 82 – Number of Businesses Supported – The Board was advised that the target of supporting 364 businesses during quarter one had been set using an assessment formula, and depending on the availability of resources the target could change for other quarters during the year.
- Contextual Indicator - Percentage of Schools Judged 'Good' or 'Outstanding' – Within to context of the limited powers and resources of Lincolnshire County Council for directly improving the performance in academies, the Board was advised that the County Council was providing as much support as it could, and also aimed to use its influence as much as possible. Individual cases were cited where the level of support provided to academies by the County Council's officers was praised.

The Board was assured that this topic was regularly considered at the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

- PI 15 Percentage of Children in Care Living within a Family Environment – In view of the impact unaccompanied asylum seeking children the number of non-family placements, the Board suggested that the number of asylum seeking children be reported separately from this indicator.

Further to the Board's discussion, it was reported that representatives from the Home Office had been attending invitation-only local meetings, but were not generally providing satisfactory answers to residents' questions. The Board recorded a view that the Home Office should provide funding for all activities of Lincolnshire County Council, arising from asylum seekers. For example, no funding was provided for age assessments, where up to eighty hours of County Council social worker time was required for each assessment, as well as the potential involvement of interpreters.