National Indicators

Head of Service: Tim Capper, Heads of Democratic Services

Report Author: Neil White, Scrutiny Support Officer

Recommendation: that the Committee notes the National Indicators that fall within this Committee's remit.

BACKGROUND

A Single Set of 198 National Indicators (the National Indicator Set – NIS) was announced by the Department of Communities and Local Government in October 2007, following the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review 2007. The NIS will be the main set of indicators on which central government will performance manage local government, replacing all other existing sets of indicators, including Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPIs) and Performance Assessment Framework (PAF) indicators, from 1st April 2008.

The national indicator set will be the measures on which central government will performance manage outcomes delivered by local government working alone or in partnerships. From April 2008, all other sets of indicators, including Best Value Performance Indicators and Performance Assessment Framework indicators, will formally be abolished.

However Copeland has been recommended by the Audit Commission to keep some of the former Best Value Performance Indicators as local indicators, where appropriate, and there will also be number of Indicators under the Local Area Agreement which are referred to below.

As the new performance framework is focused on outcomes and their delivery through stronger partnership working, the same indicators will be used for different local partners as relevant. Therefore, many of the indicators in this set will also apply to the police, primary care trusts and other local bodies.

Performance against each of the 198 indicators will be published annually by the Audit Commission, as part of Comprehensive Area Assessment and the Council will be scored against these 198 indicators.

Appendix "A" shows the indicators split into the respective overview and scrutiny committee as defined by the committee's terms of reference.

Each committee is having a separate report on its indicators and this Committee is asked to bear in mind this committee's indicators which are identified in Appendix "A" when drawing up its work plan and reviewing progress of those items.

The Cumbria Local Area Agreement also highlights 25 indicators and some "legacy" indicators that are left over from the previous Local Area Agreement and these will be included with an updated report to future meetings of the committee.

At the moment the Appendix just shows the description of the relevant item. Work is developing across the country on how some of these indicators are to be measured and as that is progressed monitoring reports generated through the Coalvent system will be reported to the Executive and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

CONCLUSION

The Committee is asked to consider the indicators that fall within its terms of reference and note those others that will fall to the other committees to consider.

List of Appendices

(A) Performance Group National Outcome and Indicator Set

List of Background Documents:

None