

The background of the slide features a large, light blue watermark of the Coat of Arms of the City of Edinburgh. The crest includes a crown with four thistles, a shield divided into four quarters (top-left: a saltire, top-right: a stag's head, bottom-left: a ship, bottom-right: an eagle), and a ribbon at the bottom with the motto 'ANE FOR A'.

Agenda Item 6

Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2018/19

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2018/19
Meeting: Scrutiny Committee
Date: 10 September 2020
Author: Director of Corporate & Housing Services

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) data for 2018/19. The Improvement Service published the 2018/19 Local Government Benchmarking Framework in January 2020. This report has been delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended Committee:

- (1) Approve the report and acknowledge progress by Falkirk Council in meeting Council LGBF priorities; and**
- (2) Where required, request further information on any specific aspects of the information provided.**

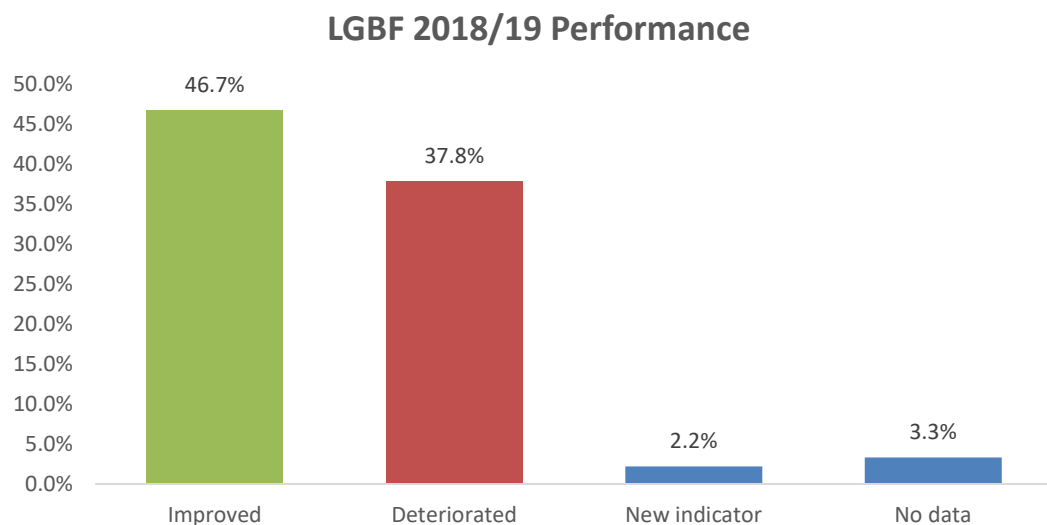
3. Background

- 3.1 The Local Government Benchmarking Framework is a national approach to preparing, comparing and improving the performance of Councils in Scotland. This replaced the previous 'Statutory Performance Indicators' required by Audit Scotland and is compiled by the Improvement Service, on behalf of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE).
- 3.2 The framework consists of two key elements; a suite of common performance indicators and national family group events which look in depth at individual service areas.
- 3.3 The Accounts Commission use the LGBF indicators as a key element of the statutory performance reporting framework. The indicators are used by Auditors to review the Council's focus on improvement during annual and Best Value audits.
- 3.4 The LGBF provides Elected Members, the public, and management with comparative service performance data across Scotland. It is however, important that all Council's supplement the indicators contained within the LGBF with additional data and contextual information to reflect local priorities and concerns. This work is carried out following receipt of the overview report from the Improvement Service where deeper analysis of the data is undertaken.

- 3.5 The LGBF data is published on the MyLocalCouncil website, and the Falkirk Council website for public scrutiny. Additionally, earlier this year we launched the Members Portal within the Council's performance management system (Pentana) with the Important Indicators. The Important Indicators allow us to monitor progress towards the Corporate Plan and we aim to add the LGBF indicators to the portal later this year.

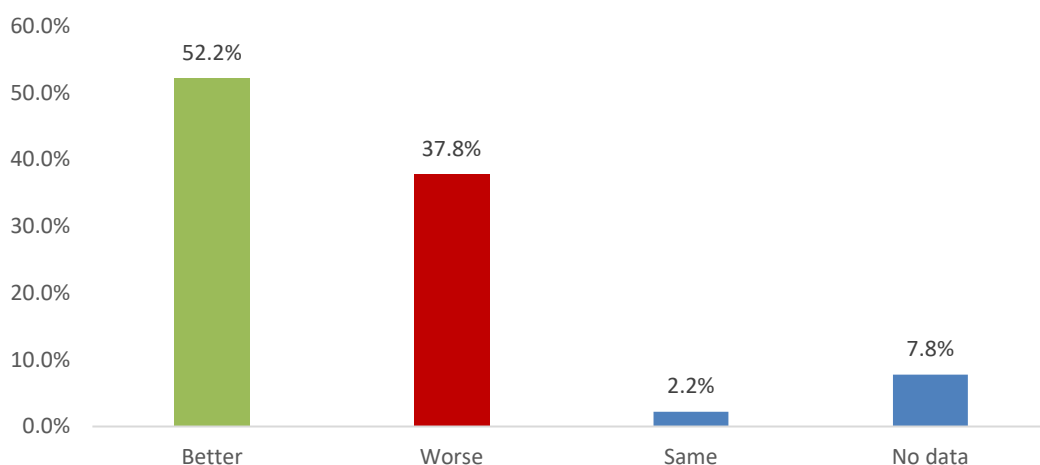
4. LGBF 2018/19 Performance Overview

- 4.1 There are 90 indicators in total. Four indicators are bi-annual and three are currently outstanding. The indicators cover service cost, service delivery and customer satisfaction. Analysis of the information is useful in terms of identifying where an increase or decrease in cost has impacted service delivery and customer satisfaction. We can also identify where there has been an improvement or deterioration in performance and compare our performance to the national average and other individual local authorities, to allow Services to undertake an appropriate course of action
- 4.2 The graph below shows the breakdown of the indicators for the Council. From 2017/18 to 2018/19 a total of 42 indicators (46.7%) improved, while performance reduced for 34 (37.8%) indicators. Details of each of the indicators can be found in Appendix 1.



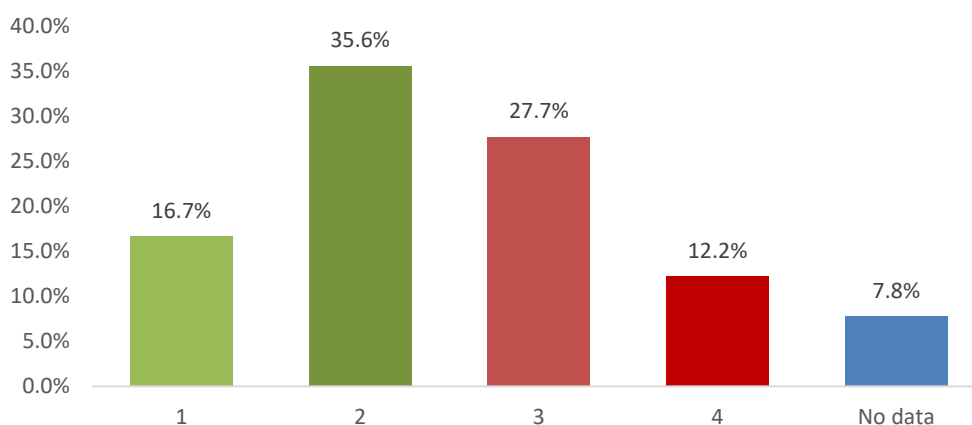
- 4.3 The chart below shows a comparison to the national average for 2018/19. 52.2% (47) of indicators performed better than the national average, while 37.8% (34) did not performed as well as the Scottish average. Details of each of these indicators against the national average can be found in Appendix 2.

LGBF 2018/19 Performance compared to Scotland



- 4.4 The chart below shows that 52.3% of indicators are within the top two quartiles and 39.9% are in the third and fourth quartiles. There are 15 indicators within the top quartile; 32 in the second quartile; 25 in the third and 11 within the fourth. Information on published indicators are detailed in Appendix 3.

LGBF 2018/19 Quartiles



5. LGBF 2018/19 and our Priorities

- 5.1 Between 2017/18 and 2018/19, Falkirk Council improved performance in several priority areas, including:
- Improving attainment amongst all pupils and those in deprived areas,
 - The percentage of unemployed people assisted into work from Council operated/funded employability programmes,
 - % of procurement spend spent on local enterprises and town vacancy rates,
 - The percentage of Council dwellings meeting Scottish Housing Standards and quality and energy efficiency.
- 5.2 Comparing performance with Scotland, Falkirk Council performed better for the following indicators;

- Cost of waste disposal per premise (£75.66 per premise compared to £97.34),
- Household waste recycling 50.8% recycled compared to 44.7% in Scotland,
- Falkirk assisted more people into work through council employability programmes (24.26% compared to 12.59% in Scotland),
- Procurement spend on local enterprises 32.34% compared to 28.71% in Scotland
- Business gateway start-ups (19.33 compared to 16.70 per 10,000 population).

5.3 Between 2017/18 and 2018/19, Falkirk Council deteriorated in performance for the following indicators:

- % of pupils living in the 20% most deprived areas gaining 5+ awards at level 5. Falkirk's performance fell by 1% from 2017/18 but is still 9% higher than the year before and is at its second highest level. It is also better than the national average.
- Number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged, per 1,000 populations (75+),
- Home care costs per hour for people aged 65+, however, this is better than the national average
- The gross cost of 'children looked after' in a community setting per child per week however, compared nationally, we have lower costs than the national average.

5.4 Comparing performance with Scotland, Falkirk Council had poorer performance for the following indicators;

- % of children being looked after in the community (82.27% in Falkirk and 89.92% in Scotland),
- Number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged, per 1,000 population (1,178 in Falkirk, 792.66 in Scotland),
- Investment in Economic Development & Tourism per 1,000 population (£70,419 in Falkirk, £107,387 in Scotland).

5.5 There are nine indicators that are ranked top 5 in Scotland, these are:

- Cost per primary school pupil: Ranked 1st
- Sickness Absence Days per Teacher: Ranked 1st
- % of funded early years provision which is graded good/better: Ranked 2nd
- Average total tariff SIMD quintile 4: Ranked 3rd
- Support services as a % of total gross expenditure: Ranked 3rd
- Average total tariff SIMD quintile 1: Ranked 4th
- % of invoices sampled that were paid within 30 days: Ranked 4th
- Net cost of waste disposal per premise: Ranked 5th
- % of unemployed people assisted into work from council operated / funded employability programmes: Ranked 5th

6. Benchmarking Family Groups

- 6.1 The Improvement Service holds annual national events for each theme. These meetings include presentations from Council officers with examples of best practice and workshops within family groups to work through identified themes and areas of interest. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the events have not been scheduled and the Improvement Service are looking at alternative ways to have these discussions.

7. Consultation

- 7.1 There is no requirement to carry out a consultation based on the report.

8. Implications

Financial

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising..

Resources

- 8.2 There are no resource implications arising.

Legal

- 8.3 There are no legal implications arising.

Risk

- 8.4 There are no risk implications arising.

Equalities

- 8.5 There are no equalities implications arising.

Sustainability/Environmental Impact

- 8.6 There are no sustainability or environmental impact arising.

9. Conclusions

- 9.1 The report provided an overview of the 2018/19 LGBF data for Members' information.

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DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE & HOUSING SERVICES

Date: 20 August 2020

Ref:

Contact Name: Michelle Duncan

Tel No: 01324 506034

Appendix 1

Indicators with improving performance				
Ref	Indicator	2017-18	2018-19	Change
CHN3	Cost per pre-school education place	£5,534	£5,518	-0.29
CHN5	% of pupils gaining 5+ awards at level 6	35.00	37.00	2.00
CHN7	% of pupils living in the 20% most deprived areas gaining 5+ awards at level 6	18.00	19.00	1.00
CHN11	% of pupils entering positive destinations	94.60	94.87	0.27
CHN12B	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 1	668	703	5.24
CHN12E	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 4	1023	1212	18.48
CHN18	% of funded early years provision which is graded good/better	97.01	98.51	1.49
CHN20a	School exclusion rates (per 1,000 pupils)	20.85	16.46	-4.39
CHN21	Participation rate for 16-19 year olds (per 100)	92.20	92.30	0.10
CHN22	% of child protection re-registrations within 18 months	24.24	3.91	-20.34
CORP 1	Support services as a % of total gross expenditure	3.26	3.16	-0.10
CORP 3b	% of the highest paid 5% employees who are women	48.83	49.33	0.50
CORP 4	The cost per dwelling of collecting council tax	£6.69	£6.60	-1.34
CORP 6b	Sickness absence days per employee (non-teacher)	11.24	10.43	-7.21
CORP 7	% of income due from council tax received by the end of the year	96.62	96.64	0.02
CORP 8	% of invoices sampled that were paid within 30 days	95.80	96.31	0.51
SW2	Self-Directed Support as a % of total social work spend on adults 18+	4.29	5.23	0.94
SW6	Rate of readmission to hospital within 28 days per 1,000 discharges	121.29	117.38	-3.22
C&L1	Cost per attendance at sports facilities	£4.32	£4.21	-2.54
C&L2	Cost per library visit	£4.02	£3.98	-0.99
C&L3	Cost of museums per visit	£9.93	£7.71	-22.37
C&L4	Cost of parks & open spaces per 1,000 population	£20,235	£17,631	-12.87
ENV1a	Net cost per waste collection per premise	£64.68	£60.97	-5.89
ENV2a	Net cost of waste disposal per premise	£77.83	£75.66	-2.79
ENV3a	Net cost of street cleaning per 1,000 population	£12,835	£12,417	-3.25
ENV3c	Street Cleanliness Score	89.50	91.10	1.79
ENV4b	% A class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	29.30	25.63	-3.67
ENV4c	% B class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	42.09	35.28	-6.81
ENV4d	% C class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	40.23	36.54	-3.69
ENV5b	Cost of environmental health per 1,000 population	£15,297	£14,862	-2.85
HSN3	% of council dwellings meeting Scottish Housing Standards	97.42	97.73	0.51
HSN4b	Average number of days taken to complete non-emergency repairs	7.97	6.79	-14.81
HSN5	% of council dwellings that are energy efficient	98.63	98.82	0.19
CORP-AS1	% of operational buildings that are suitable for their current use	87.46	87.73	0.27
CORP-AS2	% of internal floor area of operational buildings in satisfactory condition	88.70	90.15	1.45
ECON1	% of unemployed people assisted into work from council operated / funded employability programmes	22.12	24.26	2.14
ECON3	Average time per business and industry planning application (weeks)	8.96	8.10	-9.60
ECON4	% of procurement spend spent on local enterprises	32.17	32.34	0.17
ECON5	No of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population	17.61	19.33	9.78
ECON6	Investment in Economic Development & Tourism per 1,000 pop	£57,830	£70,419	21.77
ECON7	Proportion of people earning less than the living wage	20.40	18.90	-1.50
ECON8	Proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband	95.59	96.70	1.11

Indicators with deteriorating performance				
Reference	Indicator	2017-18	2018-19	Change
CHN1	Cost per primary school pupil	£4,455	£4,655	4.50
CHN2	Cost per secondary school pupil	£6,749	£7,001	3.73
CHN6	% of pupils living in the 20% most deprived areas gaining 5+ awards at level 5	47.00	46.00	2.12
CHN8a	The gross cost of "children looked after" in residential based services per child per week	£4,081	£4,173	2.25
CHN8b	The gross cost of "children looked after" in a community setting per child per week	£282.75	£335.62	18.70
CHN9	Balance of care for 'looked after children': % of children being looked after in the community	82.88	82.27	0.73
CHN10	% of adults satisfied with local schools	70.00	68.07	-1.93
CHN12A	Overall average total tariff	957	951	-0.63
CHN12C	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 2	788	749	-4.95
CHN12F	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 5	1271	1172	-7.79
CHN19a	School attendance rates (per 100 pupils)	93.10	92.94	-0.17
CHN23	% LAC with more than 1 placement in the last year (Aug-July)	26.63	33.43	25.53
CORP 3c	The gender pay gap (%)	4.05	5.19	1.14
CORP 6a	Sickness Absence Days per Teacher	4.49	4.68	4.23
SW1	Home care costs per hour for people aged 65 or over	£19.22	£22.65	17.84
SW3a	% of people aged 65 and over with long-term care needs who receiving personal care at home	65.39	65.14	-0.38
SW5	Residential costs per week per resident for people aged 65 or over	£318	£323	1.57
SW7	Proportion of care services graded 'good' (4) or better in Care Inspectorate inspections	85.71	80.61	-5.10
SW8	Number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged, per 1,000 population (75+)	910.19	1177.90	29.41
ENV4a	Cost of roads per kilometre	£9,843	£10,726	8.97
ENV4e	% of unclassified roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	37.45	37.75	0.3
ENV5	Cost of Trading Standards and environmental health per 1,000 pop	£21,737	£21,760	0.10
ENV5a	Cost of Trading Standards, Money Advice & Citizen Advice per 1000	£6,440	£6,898	7.11
ENV6	% of total household waste arising that is recycled	55.90	50.80	-5.10
ENV7a	% of adults satisfied with refuse collection	69.00	64.90	-4.10
ENV7b	% of adults satisfied with street cleaning	71.33	63.93	-7.40
HSN1b	Gross rent arrears (all tenants) as at 31 March each year as a percentage of rent due for the reporting year	7.70	8.09	0.39
HSN2	% of rent due in the year that was lost due to voids	0.91	1.04	0.13
ECON2	Cost of planning & building standards per planning application	£4,495	£4,526	0.69
ECON9	Town Vacancy Rates	11.94	14.38	2.44
C&L5a	% of adults satisfied with libraries	76.00	69.30	-6.70
C&L5b	% of adults satisfied with parks and open spaces	88.67	82.33	-6.33
C&L5c	% of adults satisfied with museums and galleries	59.00	53.13	-5.87
C&L5d	% of adults satisfied with leisure facilities	77.33	74.33	-3.00

Indicators with maintained performance			
Reference	Indicator	2017-18	2018-19
CHN4	% of pupils gaining 5+ awards at level 5	66.00	66.00
CHN12D	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 3	919	919
ECON10	Immediately available employment land as a % of total land allocated for employment purposes in the local development plan	58.87	58.87

Appendix 2

Comparison with National Average - Better than the national average			
Reference	Indicator	Falkirk	Scotland
CHN1	Cost per primary school pupil	£4,655	£5,259
CHN2	Cost per secondary school pupil	£7,001	£7,157
CHN4	% of pupils gaining 5+ awards at level 5	66.00	63.00
CHN5	% of pupils gaining 5+ awards at level 6	37.00	35.00
CHN6	% of pupils living in the 20% most deprived areas gaining 5+ awards at level 5	46.00	44.00
CHN7	% of pupils living in the 20% most deprived areas gaining 5+ awards at level 6	19.00	18.00
CHN8b	Gross cost of "children looked after" in a community setting per child per week	£335.62	£348.88
CHN12A	Overall average total tariff	951	892
CHN12B	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 1	703	625
CHN12C	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 2	749	740
CHN12D	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 3	919	872
CHN12E	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 4	1,212	1,013
CHN18	% of funded early years provision which is graded good/better	98.51	90.58
CHN20a	School exclusion rates (per 1,000 pupils)	16.46	21.65
CHN21	Participation rate for 16-19 year olds (per 100)	92.30	91.56
CHN22	% of child protection re-registrations within 18 months	3.91	7.22
CORP 1	Support services as a % of total gross expenditure	3.16	4.37
CORP 4	The cost per dwelling of collecting council tax	£6.60	£6.92
CORP 6a	Sickness Absence Days per Teacher	4.68	6.21
CORP 6b	Sickness absence days per employee (non-teacher)	10.43	11.49
CORP 7	% of income due from council tax received by the end of the year	96.64	96.01
CORP 8	% of invoices sampled that were paid within 30 days	96.31	92.68
SW1	Home care costs per hour for people aged 65 or over	£22.65	£24.59
SW3a	% of people 65+ with long-term care needs who receiving personal care at home	65.14	61.02
SW5	Residential costs per week per resident for people aged 65 or over	£323	£387
C&L4	Cost of parks & open spaces per 1,000 population	£17,631	£20,139
C&L5d	% of adults satisfied with leisure facilities	74.33	71.43
ENV1a	Net cost per waste collection per premise	£60.97	£67.21
ENV2a	Net cost of waste disposal per premise	£75.66	£97.37
ENV3a	Net cost of street cleaning per 1,000 population	£12,417	£14,840
ENV4b	% of A class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	25.63	30.03
ENV4c	% of B class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	35.28	35.71
ENV4e	% of unclassified roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	37.75	38.25
ENV5b	Cost of environmental health per 1,000 population	£14,862	£14,869
ENV6	% of total household waste arising that is recycled	50.80	44.70
HSN3	% of council dwellings meeting Scottish Housing Standards	97.73	94.32
HSN4b	Average number of days taken to complete non-emergency repairs	6.79	7.80
HSN5	% of council dwellings that are energy efficient	98.82	97.49
CORP-AS1	% of operational buildings that are suitable for their current use	87.73	82.14
CORP-AS2	% of internal floor area of operational buildings in satisfactory condition	90.15	87.21
ECON1	% unemployed assisted into work from council employability programmes	24.26	12.59
ECON3	Average time per business and industry planning application (weeks)	8.10	9.09
ECON4	% of procurement spend spent on local enterprises	32.34	28.71
ECON5	No of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population	19.33	16.70
ECON7	Proportion of people earning less than the living wage	18.90	19.40
ECON8	Proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband	96.70	92.01
ECON10	Immediately available employment land as a % of total land allocated for employment purposes in the local development plan	58.87	37.55

Comparison with National Average - Worse than the national average			
Reference	Indicator	Falkirk	Scotland
CHN3	Cost per pre-school education place	£5,518	£5,014
CHN8a	Gross cost of "children looked after" in residential services per child per week	£4,173	£3,930
CHN9	% of children being looked after in the community	82.27	89.92
CHN10	% of adults satisfied with local schools	68.07	71.83
CHN11	% of pupils entering positive destinations	94.87	95.05
CHN12F	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 5	1,172	1,193
CHN14a	Literacy Attainment Gap (P1,4,7 Combined) - percentage point gap between the least deprived and most deprived pupils	24.30	20.66
CHN14b	Numeracy Attainment Gap (P1,4,7 Combined) - percentage point gap between the least deprived and most deprived pupils	18.19	17
CHN19a	School attendance rates (per 100 pupils)	92.94	92.95
CHN23	% LAC with more than 1 placement in the last year (Aug-July)	33.43	19.65
CORP 3b	% of the highest paid 5% employees who are women	49.33	55.79
CORP 3c	The gender pay gap (%)	5.19	3.96
SW2	Self-Directed Support spend on adults 18+ as a % of total social work spend	5.23	7.32
SW6	Rate of readmission to hospital within 28 days per 1,000 discharges	117.38	102.96
SW7	% of care services graded 'good' (4) or better in Care Inspectorate inspections	80.61	82.17
SW8	Number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged, per 1,000 population (75+)	1,178	792.66
C&L1	Cost per attendance at sports facilities	£4.21	£2.61
C&L2	Cost per library visit	£3.98	£2.05
C&L3	Cost of museums per visit	£7.71	£3.47
C&L5a	% of adults satisfied with libraries	69.30	72.37
C&L5b	% of adults satisfied with parks and open spaces	82.33	84.83
C&L5c	% of adults satisfied with museums and galleries	53.13	69.30
ENV3c	Street Cleanliness Score	91.10	92.80
ENV4a	Cost of roads per kilometre	£10,726	£9,823
ENV4d	% of C class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	36.54	36.25
ENV5	Cost of Trading Standards and environmental health per 1,000 population	£21,760	£20,759
ENV5a	Cost of Trading Standards, Money Advice & Citizen Advice per 1000	£6,898	£5,890
ENV7a	% of adults satisfied with refuse collection	64.90	76.30
ENV7b	% of adults satisfied with street cleaning	63.93	66.30
HSN1b	Gross rent arrears (all tenants) as at 31 March each year as a percentage of rent due for the reporting year	8.09	7.33
HSN2	% of rent due in the year that was lost due to voids	1.04	0.95
ECON2	Cost of planning & building standards per planning application	£4,526	£4,443
ECON6	Investment in Economic Development & Tourism per 1,000 Population	£70,419	£107,387
ECON9	Town Vacancy Rates	14.38	10.00

Appendix 3

Indicators in top quartile			
Reference	Indicator	2018-19	Rank
CHN1	Cost per primary school pupil	£4,655	1
CHN5	% of pupils gaining 5+ awards at level 6	37.00	6
CHN6	% of pupils living in the 20% most deprived areas gaining 5+ awards at level 5	46.00	8
CHN7	% of pupils living in the 20% most deprived areas gaining 5+ awards at level 6	19.00	8
CHN12A	Overall average total tariff	951	6
CHN12B	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 1	703	4
CHN12E	Average total tariff SIMD quintile 4	1212	3
CHN18	% of funded early years provision which is graded good/better	98.51	2
CORP 1	Support services as a % of total gross expenditure	3.16	3
CORP 6a	Sickness Absence Days per Teacher	4.68	1
CORP 8	% of invoices sampled that were paid within 30 days	96.31	4
ENV2a	Net cost of waste disposal per premise	£75.66	5
ECON1	% of unemployed people assisted into work from council operated / funded employability programmes	24.26	5
ECON7	Proportion of people earning less than the living wage	18.90	8
ECON8	Proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband	96.70	7

Indicators in bottom quartile			
Reference	Indicator	2018-19	Rank
CHN9	% of children being looked after in the community	82.27	29
CHN23	% LAC with more than 1 placement in the last year (Aug-July)	33.43	31
CORP 3b	% of the highest paid 5% employees who are women	49.33	26
SW6	Rate of readmission to hospital within 28 days per 1,000 discharges	117.38	29
SW8	Number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged, per 1,000 population (75+)	1177.90	26
C&L1	Cost per attendance at sports facilities	£4.21	31
C&L2	Cost per library visit	£3.98	28
C&L3	Cost of museums per visit	£7.71	27
ECON9	Town Vacancy Rates	14.38	27
C&L5a	% of adults satisfied with libraries	69.30	26
C&L5c	% of adults satisfied with museums and galleries	53.13	27