

CALDERDALE COUNCIL PERFORMANCE 2021-22 SUMMARY

Our Vision 2024 seeks to raise our aspirations, instil hope, and enable us all to work together to support the people of Calderdale to reach their potential, and is aligned to and support our corporate priorities of the Council.

With the significant challenges in the last 2 years and we now emerge from the global pandemic, there are unprecedented cost of living rises and other economic/geopolitical challenges now facing our residents. it is therefore important to reflect in this context on how well we have performed in meeting these pressures. More importantly it serves as a baseline to inform where our areas of focus must be to address new and emerging challenges going forward and what improvements we can identify to our approach to help inform this work going forward.

This is a summary of our confirmed performance during the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022. The themes and ambition as set out in our Vision 2024 and the three key priorities of the Council as agreed by Cabinet, which are aligned to and support this, are as follows:

We know that the impact of the pandemic and the challenge posed by the of the cost-of-living crisis are not felt equally by our residents. We will work with our communities to **Reduce Inequalities**, and the causes of deprivation to ensure that we support our residents with positive economic activity and opportunities that promote healthy future outcomes.

Following our declaration of a **Climate Emergency** we are committed to develop and implement programmes to help us realise a carbon neutral future and reduce the risk of flooding across the Calder Valley.

By supporting our local economy with economic hubs that provide thriving independent retail businesses and a rich cultural life that builds on Calderdale's heritage and landscape, we will develop and ensure we have **Strong & Resilient Towns**.

Strong and Resilient Towns	Reducing Inequality	Climate Emergency
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Dwellings• Adults Qualifications• Employment Rate• Claimants• Youth Unemployment• Weekly Pay• Business Sustainability• School Attainment• Housing Delivery• Roads maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physically active• Excess Weight• Older people accessing social care• School readiness• Crime• Healthy life expectancy at birth• Voluntary Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conservation• Lowering CO₂ emissions

We measure the performance of the council on approximately 90 key performance indicators which provide us with evidence of how well we are doing against our own ambitions, and against other local authorities of similar size and demography. This helps us to celebrate and learn from success, as well as identify where we need to improve. We treat a selection of these as super key performance indicators (SKPI) as they have the biggest impact on the people of Calderdale and are aligned to our priorities. 2021/22 Performance for these SKPI's are also illustrated via infographics (Appendix B).

In some instances, there is a lag between published (and validated datasets with which we can accurately benchmark performance) and the time parameters for annual reporting. As such updated performance and benchmarking data may not yet be available to the Council, depending upon timescales and source.

This year we have implemented further improvements to our performance framework with revised measures and more robust primary benchmarking of our progress with other local authorities beyond our geographical boundaries in the North of England. This has been achieved via benchmarking against CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy), and the Council's Statistical Neighbours for Yorkshire and Humber and all England councils.

We also consider some key indicators of success which will help us to understand and measure our progress against [Vision 2024](#) for Calderdale.

Not everything can be measured in statistics though, and our resident's perception of our place and our progress towards this shared vision is equally important. The vision we share with our partners in the public, private and voluntary sector is also examined and will be celebrated with even more determination and vigour at our annual event, [We Are Calderdale 2022: Calderdale Together - YouTube](#)

As part of our wider commitment to transparency and an ambition to be open by default, we publish quarterly updates to show how we are doing against our performance indicators. We also publish an interactive dashboard which allows you to look at our performance over time and compare us to other areas. These can be found on our open data platform [Calderdale DataWorks](#).

Achievements

The latest data for **adults needing access to social care** (The percentage of the population aged 65 or over in receipt of long-term adult health and social care support) continues to fall, reaching 3.56% in our latest published annual figure, which relates to 2020/21. This is decrease from 3.8% in 2019/20. Our comparators also saw decreases against this measure in 2020/21, with 3.4% nationally and 3.8% amongst our statistical neighbours.

Our performance for the number of **adults qualified to Level 4 or above** has increase from the previous year. The most recent data (2021) shows that 39.2% of adults aged 16-64 in Calderdale are qualified to Level 4 or above, with our performance now slightly above regional average but remains behind the national average.

The latest data for **youth unemployment** (as of March 2022) shows 7.4% of 18-24 year olds are claiming unemployment benefits showing a continued reduction from the peak of 12.9% in March 2021. Although we remain higher than England and Regional comparators (5.0% and 5.4% respectively), the percentage gap has reduced and is now as it was pre-pandemic.

Enormous efforts have been put in place nationally and local to support the economic recovery from the pandemic. The **economic business sustainability** reflects there has been an increase in the proportion of new enterprises that are still active 3 years from 54.9% to 57.2% which puts our performance above the regional average and currently ranks us 3rd against statistical neighbours.

The monitoring of **physical activity and inactivity in adults** is an important indicator as part of a healthier lifestyle. Percentage of physically active/inactive adults — The latest data for May 2020 to May 2021 shows a slight increase in the proportion of physically active adults to 63.2%, compared to a decrease amongst most of our comparators. The data however also shows an increase in the proportion of inactive adults to 28%, mirroring the trend seen in most comparators.

In previous years one of the most concerning indicators for us was the **excess weight** of our reception age and 10–11-year-old children. The proportion that was overweight was well above national and regional averages. With initiatives including Food For Life and the Calderdale Food Network we are pleased to say this has improved dramatically, for both Reception age and for 10-11 year olds. . Reception age children in Calderdale are now less likely than their regional peers and CIPFA nearest neighbour to be overweight.

Challenges

The latest data release from the 2020/21 annual road condition survey shows maintenance should be considered for 4% of **principal roads**. This ranks us 13th against statistical neighbours. The rankings that are published annually show that highway maintenance of our principal roads has improved from 5% of the network requiring maintenance to 4% during this reporting year. This remains within the overall West Yorkshire Combined Authority target of 5%. In an attempt to improve our performance further, and in common with all West Yorkshire authorities, we have recently supported a City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement bid that will increase maintenance funding over the next five-year period 2022-27. Consequently, this year's capital programme is valued at £7.692M, with £4.596M of this being committed for carriageway improvement works.

The latest data release shows an increase in **total crime** of 1.3% increase in the total number of recorded crimes for the year 2021/22 (24,709) against 2019/20 (24,392). Comparatively, West Yorkshire saw a 2% increase against the same time periods. This is the last quarter that comparisons against pre-pandemic will be given. From Quarter 1 2022/23 reporting comparisons will revert back to against the previous year. The clearest understanding of current total crime for this annual performance (2021/22) period can be seen when comparing against pre pandemic trends (2019) given the adverse impact this pandemic had on citizen behaviours/freedom of movement. This shows all districts with very similar total crime levels to 2019, albeit in Calderdale we are slightly below the average for the West Yorkshire Force area. With the release and final removal of pandemic restrictions during 2021/22, there was an expected increase in some types of crime, as people were able to return to a new normality and participated in the hospitality/ night-time economy sector. It is intended however that for 2022/23, reporting comparisons will now be statistically robust so as to be compared with the previous 12 months and without this anomaly period will hopefully inform better data and trend in crime reporting. To reflect the complex nature of Total Crime reporting and its interrelated dependencies, our communities and variance in type we will be working to refine our SKPI reporting in this area during 2022/23.

The 2021 data release shows a slight improvement of our **Housing Delivery Test** of 55% from 50% against the national indicator. This ranks us 15th against statistical neighbours. Known challenges with housing sufficiency and the delivery of new homes. Our actions to address this include revision this year of our Calderdale Housing Delivery Test Action Plan with its focus to "identify the reasons for under-delivery, explore ways to reduce the risk of further under-delivery and set out measures the authority intends to take to improve levels of delivery". The refreshed action plan will clarify the priority status for housing development and demonstrate our progress and awareness and understanding of problems of low delivery to statutory agencies such as the Planning Inspectorate going forward. Furthermore, in this context we have continued to progress the Local Plan towards adoption in September 2022 and have produced a new Housing strategy and commissioned Local Partnerships to undertake a study regarding housing delivery in Calderdale, all of which will help inform our future work and action plans in this area.

Looking to the Future

The challenges that face Calderdale Council and other authorities across the country are the greatest in recent living times. These challenges arise not only from issues such as the post pandemic recovery, but also consideration of impacts post Brexit and a new cost of living crisis. Climate change and net zero are very much at the top of the agenda, as well as regional devolution and ongoing financial constraints on public sector spending. Many of these are complex and require a multi partnership response to tackle them.

As a part of the performance management cycle, refinement and improvement of our performance framework in 2022/23 will also be reflected and be of value in the budget planning process (Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) by enabling greater scope for financial modelling of performance and its impact on the achievement of our outcomes and aspirations for residents going forward to be illustrated.

- What are the improved outcomes for our residents which we are aiming to achieve underpinned by our Council's priorities and refreshed Vision?
- What is our performance telling us about our efforts as a Council to meet these, and where should we make any changes to improve if needed?
- How effective are we in our financial commitments and resource allocation at delivering services or working with partners to achieve these outcomes?

Finally, it is worth noting and recognising however, that in the context of this challenging period, there has been and evidenced strong overall performance of the Council in this past 12 months based upon latest available data releases and measured against its Super Key Performance Indicators (SKPI's). As noted, in the last 12 months across our 19 super key performance indicators, nearly 60% of these indicators are ranked within the top/second quartile of councils when measured against this benchmarking group (CIPFA). In this context and the challenges throughout this past 12 months, this is a level of performance that can, and should attract a degree of celebration and optimism for the future. **We are Calderdale.... together**