Agenda Item No:		
Report To:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee Cabinet	ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
Date of Meeting:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee: Tuesday 13 ¹ Cabinet: Thursday 29 th September	^h September
Report Title:	Performance Report, Quarter 1 2022/23	
Report Author & Job Title:	Tom Swain Governance and Data Protection Officer	
Portfolio Holder Portfolio Holder for:	Cllr. Peter Feacey	

Summary:	This report summarises performance against the council's updated suite of KPIs reflecting the Corporate Plan 2022-24
	Certain performance indicators from the previous council's framework have been retained and allow for historic data comparison, however a number of new performance indicators have been agreed upon, for which data is only available for this last quarter.
	As this is the first of the performance reports reflecting the Corporate Plan 2022- 24 – all measures have been included both those which, going forward, will be reported upon annually and those reported upon quarterly.

Key Decision:	No
Significantly Affected Wards:	None
Recommendations:	Overview and Scrutiny Cabinet, is asked to:-
	I. Consider the performance data for Quarter 1 2022/23
Policy Overview:	Performance measures have been updated to reflect the objectives and priorities of The Corporate Plan 22-24.

Financial	This quarterly Performance Report acts as an opportunity to monitor the progress made by the council against the Corporate Plan.
Implications:	N/A
Legal Implications:	N/A
Equalities Impact Assessment:	Not required as the report presents information on past council performance and does not recommend any change to council policy or new action.
Data Protection Impact Assessment:	N/A
Risk Assessment (Risk Appetite Statement):	N/A
Sustainability Implications:	N/A
Other Material Implications:	N/A
Exempt from Publication:	No
Background Papers:	The Corporate Plan 2022-24
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Portfolio Holder's Views:

In this first quarter performance report we welcome a number of new key performance measures that will assist us in monitoring progress towards delivery of our Corporate Plan 2022-24. These new measures are set out together with well-established ones, providing a holistic overview of our direction of travel. The traffic light system is an effective way of showing that positive progress has already been made against our ambitious Corporate Plan, whilst highlighting areas of focus for quarter 2. This first report includes the quarterly as well as annual targets, the latter of which we will return to at the end of the year

Report Title: Performance Report, Quarter 1 2022/23

Introduction and Background

- 1. In 2019 we embarked on a comprehensive study to inform our next Corporate Plan, envisaging that this would be developed and adopted during 2020. As our work with stakeholders was coming to a conclusion the coronavirus pandemic forced the country into lockdown in March 2020. Our <u>Recovery Plan</u> was developed as an interim strategic document to focus our work towards enabling a timely recovery from the pandemic, supporting residents, communities and local business.
- 2. With the start of the 22/23 financial year the Recovery Plan has now been superseded by the <u>Corporate Plan 22-24</u>. This new Corporate Plan continues this journey and looks ahead, with renewed vigour, to realise the <u>Ashford</u> <u>Ambition</u> that was developed with a wide range of local stakeholders for a vibrant, caring and sustainable borough.
- 3. The Ashford Ambition is supported by three priority themes:

• Green Pioneer – Where businesses, communities and the public and third sector have come together to become carbon neutral, respect the local environment and ecology, and embrace a more sustainable way of living.

• Caring Ashford – A caring and supportive place to live, with rich heritage; thriving towns, villages and rural communities; great schools; high-quality housing; a plethora of cultural activities and events; and a strong sense of civic pride.

• Targeted Growth – A place where productive, innovative, responsible town and rural business communities offer good quality work to an agile and skilled local workforce who have embraced a culture of lifelong learning.

These along with our underlying principles provide a framework that focuses our efforts on working towards our strategic objectives.

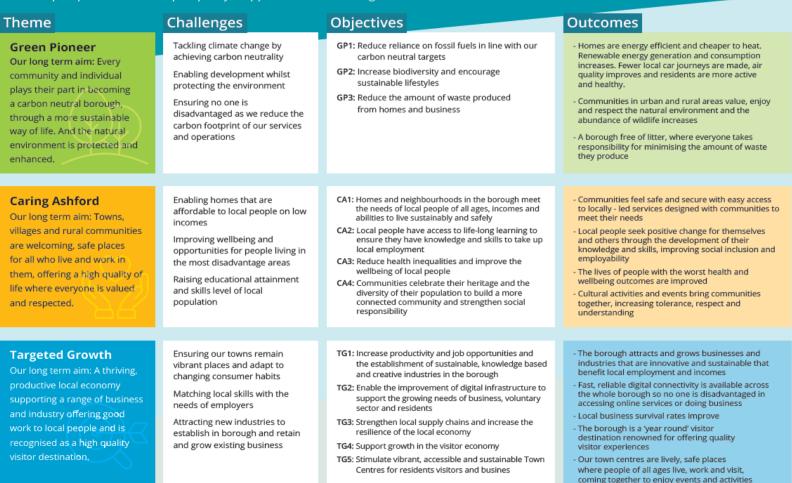
4. This report seeks to provide an overview of performance against the council's key performance indicators for Quarter 1 2022/23. The council's performance framework captures key performance data from across the organisation as it relates to the council's Corporate Plan.

Areas of Note

5. As this is the first performance report reflecting the performance indicators as identified in the Corporate Plan, there are a number of new measures where this quarters data is the first available. With time, trend data will become established, allowing for performance to be compared over time. Additionally, being the first report all measures have been included, providing a baseline for those measures which going forward will be reported upon annually.

Ashford Ambition:

To be a thriving, productive and inclusive borough by 2030 and beyond; a vital part of Kent and the South East where local businesses, social enterprises, communities and the public sector provide collective leadership to promote shared prosperity, happiness and wellbeing.



Borough Council

PI Status		Long Term Trends					
	Alert		Improving				
\triangle	Warning		No Change				
0	ОК		Getting Worse				

Green Pioneer Quarterly Measures

Code & Short	Description	Q3 2021/22			Q4 2021	Q4 2021/22			2/23		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_06 Number of organisations committed to active travel plans cycling/walking	Number of organisations committed to active travel plans cycling/walking								d Boroug er role ou		taff. Work continues to explore how we can work with a local business
CP_KPI_09 Recycling Rate	% of borough waste recycled or composted	48.67%	50%	0	49%	50%	0	55%	50%	0	Q1 figures based on data for April and May, June figure due shortly.
-	ng rate remains comfort JK local authorities is re	-			-					-	aFlow Waste and recycling statistics

Code & Short			Q3 2021/22		Q4 2021/22			Q1 2022/23			Latest Note	
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status		
CP_KPI_10 Refuse Collection Success Rate	% of successful refuse collections per 100,000 refuse collections made	99.95%	99.96%	0	99.97%	99.96%	0	99.96%	99.96%	0	Waste data from UK local authorities is reported to WasteDataFlow with statistics available at the following links: <u>WasteDataFlow</u> <u>Waste and recycling statistics</u>	

Green Pioneer Annual Measures

Code & Short	Description	Baseline	Figure		Latest Note						
Name		Value	Target	Status							
CP_KPI_01 Council's carbon footprint (tCO2e) Annual	Council's carbon footprint (tCO2e)		easure – Base ₂ e for Y2019/ź		In July 2019 Ashford Borough Council declared its aim to become carbon neutral in its own estate and operations by 2030. The Climate Change Advisory Committee (CCAC), driven by a lead Member leads on the commitment to act a achieve this agenda. In May 2021 officers initiated consultancy work with Laser Energy (our corporate estate energy provider) to establish the Council's own carbon baseline (on own assets and assist with the borough wide picture) with a v to modelling potential carbon descent plans for net zero for council owned assets. This returned a carbon baseline of 3599 tCO ₂ e for Y2019/20 Detailed information on Ashford Borough Council's framework for climate action is included within - <u>Climate Change Action - A Systemic Approach.pdf (moderngov.co.uk)</u> .						
CP_KPI_02 Council owned renewable energy provision (kWh) Annual	Total potential capacity of council owned renewable energy provision (kWh)	from 21-22	easure – Base 2 estimated a Wh per year.		The council has been proactive in installing Solar PV on its buildings since 2011 and now generates an estimated average of 357,000kWh per year. The importance of maximising the use of solar photovoltaic (PV) on Council buildings is understood and projects including the installation at Carlton Road - Stour Centre Car Park - Ellingham Industrial Estate - Blindgrooms Lane are being explored.						
CP_KPI_03 Number of EV charging points on council property Annual	Number of EV charging points on council property			eline figure ging points on	Current network of charging points in Ashford resulted in 24,633 kWh energy consumption from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021. The council currently has 14 council managed charging points. The network of Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVCP) is planned to be expanded and its reliability improved in the following years. Ashford Borough Council has been successful in a funding bid to the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV) to help forge ahead with plans to increase the number of EVCPs in council-managed car parks. Cabinet has already approved the release of funds from its Climate Change Reserve Fund to install even more EVCPs in locations that are ineligible for funding through the OLEV scheme.						

Code & Short	Description	Baseline	Figure		Latest Note				
Name		Value	Target	Status					
					Further information is available within the 2022 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ashford.gov.uk)				
CP_KPI_04 Air Quality	Number of Air Quality Management Areas	from 21-2 Air Qualit	neasure – Bas 22 0 Iy Annual Stat Leach June		Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) are declared when there is an exceedance or likely exceedance of an air quality objective. After declaration, the authority should prepare an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) within 12 months setting out measures it intends to put in place in pursuit of compliance with the objectives. Ashford Borough Council currently does not have any declared AQMAs. For reference, a map of Ashford Borough Council's monitoring locations, as well as those undertaken by National Highways within Ashford, is available form 2022 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ashford.gov.uk)				
CP_KPI_05 Area of land (km2) managed for nature conservation Annual	Area of land (km2) managed for nature conservation	86,156M2	2 of meadows	created	Ashford Borough Council have set out how they will increase biodiversity within council owed green spaces by introducing a variety of habitats and varying maintenance regimes. The creation of more meadows and enhanced Land Management Plans across the borough, will benefit wildlife, improve the wellbeing of our residents by connecting them with nature as well as continuing to maintain our open spaces in a way that promotes a sense of place and space. The council's in-house landscape management service, Aspire, are proposing to make some changes to selected areas of land they manage including introducing areas of uncut grass for meadow creation. The Creation of Meadows and enhanced Land Management Plans to support increased biodiversity: (moderngov.co.uk)				
CP_KPI_07 Number of trees planted (net gain) supported through ABC projects Annual	planted (net gain) supported through ABC projects	from 21-2	easure – Bas 22 40,000 tree cross the bord	s have been	To thank Her Majesty for her service and celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, Ashford Borough Council is aiming to plant one tree representing each resident who will be living in the borough in 2022. This will be almost 135,500 trees planted over the next three years. Trees will be planted in the winter/spring planting seasons from October 2021 through the Jubilee year in 2022 and beyond to 2024.				

Code & Short	Description	Baseline	Figure		Latest Note					
Name		Value	Target	Status						
CP_KPI_08 Level of biodiversity in defined project areas Annual	Level of biodiversity in defined project areas		idow areas ha t Queen Moth to date.		introducing a variety of ha The creation of more mea improve the wellbeing of c spaces in a way that prom The council's in-house lar areas of land they manage	ave set out how they will increase biodiversity within council owned green spaces by bitats and varying maintenance regimes. Nows and enhanced Land Management Plans across the borough will benefit wildlife, ar residents by connecting them with nature as well as continuing to maintain our open betes a sense of place and space. Ascape management service, Aspire, are proposing to make some changes to selected including introducing areas of uncut grass for meadow creation. and enhanced Land Management Plans to support increased biodiversity:				
CP_KPI_11 Contamination rate in recycling loads Annual	Contamination rate in recycling loads	average t 21-22 wa	otal contamin s 13.72%	ation rate for						
	Reported	Appualm	ieasure – Bas	olino figuro		2019 – 2020	2020 – 2021	2021 – 2022		
CP_KPI_12	incidences of fly- tipping				No. of fly tips registered	1538	2027	1514		
Reported incidences of					Fines Issued	2	7	48		
fly-tipping Annual				Total £ paid in fines	£4744.00	£775.00	£3595.77			

Caring Ashford Quarterly Measures

Code & Short Description		Q3 2021/22			Q4 2021/22			Q1 2022/23			Latest Note
Name	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status		
CP_KPI_13 Food Hygiene Rating	% of businesses in the borough with a food hygiene rating above 3*	99%	98.5%		99.1%	98.5%		99.2%	98.5%		

With additional inspection capacity being made available by Ashford Port Health, the Food and Health & Safety team were able to complete the Food Inspection programme for 2021/22 and meet the commitments made to the Food Standards Agency in the recovery programme.

Ashford Borough Council's Annual Food Service Plan 2022/23, includes a review of performance in delivering official food controls during 2021/22 is available at: Food Services Plan 202223.pdf (moderngov.co.uk)

CP_KPI_17 Council Affordable Housing - New Build	No. of additional new build affordable homes delivered by council housing	0	31	17	 Halstow Way completed in this quarter. 17 flats (4 x 3-bed duplex apartments, 7 x 2-bed flats and 6 x 1-bed homes) <u>Repton - Land Acquisition in the HRA.pdf</u> (moderngov.co.uk) Looking forward - At this time this is bound by Stodmarsh nutrient neutrality mitigation measures. With Stodmarsh mitigation measures necessary before we can deliver many of our current plans. However in the pipeline for delivery we have 20 homes with approval in Mabledon Avenue that we would hope to begin on site as soon as possible and that in the planning process we currently have 3 x infill schemes totalling 12 homes, an independent living scheme totalling 69 dwellings and a temporary accommodation scheme totalling 23 dwellings.

Code & Short	Description	Q3 202	1/22		Q4 2021	/22		Q1 202	2/23		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_18 Council Affordable Housing - On- Street Purchases	No. of additional on- street purchase affordable homes delivered by council housing	5			3			3			This quarter saw 3 completions, with a further 3 in conveyancing. Annual target of approximately 20 units. With a focus on strategic purchases, targeted at the type of properties needed.
CP_KPI_19 Homelessness Presentations	No. of homelessness presentations	323			404			391			
CP_KPI_19b Homelessness Preventions (still in accommodation)	No. of households where homelessness was prevented	28			28			24			

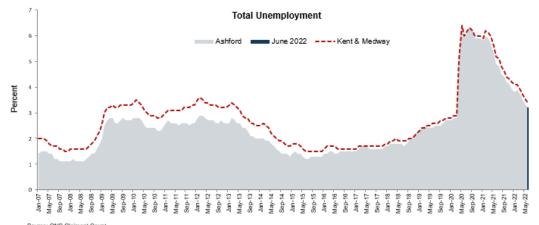
With the cost of living soaring and the effects of the pandemic ongoing, <u>Ashford Borough Council has received £175,000 to help prevent homelessness</u>. The government grant will help tackle rent arrears that have built up as a direct result of Covid-19.

The latest data tables on local government housing including Ashford Borough Council, covering social housing sales, homelessness, and affordable housing supply are available at the following links: Social housing sales Homelessness Affordable housing supply

Report on the Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme, presented on the November's Cabinet agenda Rough Sleeper Accommodation ProjectMove On - Update Report.pdf (moderngov.co.uk) along with First Homes.pdf (moderngov.co.uk).

Code & Short	Description	Q3 202	1/22		Q4 2021/	22		Q1 2022	2/23		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_20 Disabled Facilities Grants Completed	No. of disabled facilities grants administered by the council	18			13			16	-		On target figure for the time of the year.
CP_KPI_20b Disabled Facilities Grant Spend	Actual spend per month for disabled facility grants	£203,74	40.90		£200,928	.24		£196,52	1.61		Good figure for interim payments allowing cases to move forward prior to completion.

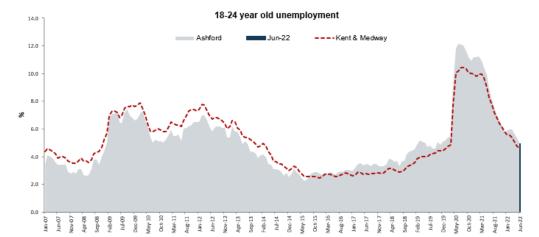
Code & Short	Description	Q3 202	1/22		Q4 2021	/22		Q1 2022/23 Value Target Status			Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status			Status	
CP_KPI_21 Unemployment	Unemployment figures taken monthly from Kent County Councils Economy and employment data	3.9%			3.7%			3.2% Improvir	ng trend		More information available within - <u>Economy and</u> employment data - Kent County Council



Source: ONS Claimant Count Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

June 2022	Number	% rate	Number change since May 2022	% change since May 2022	Number change since June 2021	% change since June 2021
Ashford	2,495	3.2%	-120	-4.6%	-1,340	-34.9%
Kent & Medway	38,575	3.4%	-1,170	-2.9%	-19,980	-34.1%

Code & Short	Description	Q3 202	1/22		Q4 2021/	22		Q1 202	Q1 2022/23		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_22 Unemployment 18-24yr olds	Unemployment 18- 24yr olds taken monthly from the Kent County Council economy and employment data	5.8%		-	6%	-		4.9% Improvii	ng trend		More information available within - <u>Economy and</u> employment data - Kent County Council Latest available data on Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) is available from - <u>Tracking</u> Young People - KELSI



Source: ONS Claimant Count Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

18-24 Unemployment

June 2022	Number	% rate	Number change since May 2022	% change since May 2022	Number change since June 2021	% change since June 2021
Ashford	430	4.9%	-35	-7.5%	-345	-44.5%
Kent & Medway	6,495	4.6%	-210	-3.1%	-5,225	-44.6%

Code & Short	Description	Q3 202	1/22		Q4 2021	/22		Q1 202	2/23		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_26 Benefit Change of Circumstance Processing	to process a benefit change of circumstance in no.	2.02	10	0	1.84	10	0	1.94	10	0	Benefit change of circumstance processing time continues to remain on target.
CP_KPI_27 Benefit New Claim Processing Time	Average time taken to process a new benefit payment claim in no. days	25.2	28	0	25.96	28	Ø	28.78	28	<u> </u>	Please note there has been a delay in the processing of a number of new claims in Exempt Supported Accommodation and Temporary Accommodation due to delays in obtaining clarification regarding subsidy implications from the DWP.
	Number of tickets	New Me			Now Ma			Cinese	4 - ut - f k		Lottery: Since lottery scheme started selling tickets on 17
CP_KPI_30 Number of tickets sold local lottery Scheme	Number of tickets sold local lottery scheme – generating x amount.	New M	easure		New Measure			Since start of scheme 17 Feb 2022, 16,614 tickets			Feb 2022, 16,614 tickets have been sold generating £9,968.40 for good causes. Information about the Ashford Community Lottery is available from <u>Ashford Community Lottery: Easy online</u> fundraising for good causes - Ashford Community Lottery
CP_KPI_32 Support to 'vulnerable' groups through leisure centre activity	Support to 'vulnerable' groups through leisure centre activity	Silent S Learnin Aerobio 75+ fre New in GP Ref	ng projec Sunday (ng Difficu cs class is e swimm the quan ferral Re-	ulties Gro s offered. hing was la rter: launch; n	reekly soft up , East K aunched re newly re-lau	ent NHS F	oundation; 2 and now eme acros	This is a has 9 me s both Sto	10-week o	course whe	vith special educational needs. re supervised access to the gym and an exclusive Aqua s to Age UK are aiming to boost participation. ith a dedicated staff member, more pathways to referral, better

Caring Ashford Annual Measures

Code & Short	Description	Baseline	e Figure		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_14 Number of all recorded crime figures Annual	Recorded Town Centre crime	Baseline Victoria town cer	e figure for 2	1-22 includes the e 175	In Autumn 2021, following a successful bid to the Home Office, Ashford was awarded almost £550,000 to make the streets of its town centre safer, particularly for women and girls. The scheme includes: • The creation of the Ashford Streetwise app (launching 29 April) • Active Bystander training has been delivered to over 180 front line staff from businesses operating in the town centre (A network of Safe Spaces - premises people can go to if they need help and support when out in the town centre (look out for the window sticker or find them on the app) • Additional Ashford Partnership Against Crime radios purchased to increase the number of guardians in the town centre (and support Safe Spaces) • 20 school presentations, emphasising key safety messages and the importance of respect and healthy relationships • CCTV cameras have been installed in Edinburgh Road Car park and at Elwick Place, eight public space cameras have been installed in the town centre as well as wall-mounted mirrors to improve sightlines • Improvements to the Memorial Gardens to remove undergrowth and replace the perimeter fence • Purchase and distribution of: • Smarttag to licensed premises • Personal safety equipment • Pressure washer and litter picking equipment Additionally, Ashford Borough Council has joined forces with Charlton Athletic Community Trust (CACT) on a yearlong project which aims to use the power of sport and physical activity to create safer, stronger and more respectful communities by engaging with young people in some of our most high-need areas.
	Number killed or				The number of personal injury collisions at any location in Kent is available at www.crashmap.co.uk.
CP_KPI_15	seriously injured on		Collisions	Casualties	
Number killed	Ashford's roads	Fatal	7	7	The County is served by three Highway Authorities: Kent County Council (KCC), Highways England and Medway Council. Kent Police collects over 60 pieces of statistical data for each injury crash for the whole county. Crashes are
or seriously		Serious		44	categorised by severity:
injured on the		Slight Total	198 242	283 334	outogeneed by coverty.
roads Annual			r year 2021	334	Fatal - a crash resulting in a death Serious - detention in hospital, includes paralysis, fractures and severe lacerations

Serious - detention in hospital, includes paralysis, fractures and severe lacerations

Code & Short	Description	Baselin	ne Figure		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	
			-		Slight - includes whiplash, sprains and minor lacerations Human error is a factor in 95% of road crashes. Based on the Department for Transport's (DfT) figures the cost to the community of a fatal crash is around £1.9 million, a serious crash costs in the region of £216,000 and a slight crash costs £23,000. For more information about crash and casualty figures please see <u>www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and- travel/road-safety/crash-and-casualty-data</u> .
CP_KPI_16 Number of play areas revamped/ refreshed/ replaced Annual	areas revamped/refreshed	Goat Le	ees, compl		Ashford Borough Council is committed to providing local communities with high quality and accessible play spaces, and we continually seek to secure additional funding to maintain and strengthen the local play offer. Ashford Borough Council has allocated a budget of £1.1M for upgrading and improving access for three play areas in Ashford. We have developed new draft layout plans for Rylands Road Open Space, Spearpoint Recreation Ground and Central Park. Public consultation took place both in person and online with very positive feedback for all three schemes during May. In particular, the engagement led to further interaction with a group of disabled youngsters and their parents into the design of the Central Park scheme - the resulting comments have helped to refine the design further ensuring we meet the aim of providing more inclusive and accessible facilities for the whole local community. Contracts have been signed up with two play manufacturers to deliver the three schemes. Spearpoint requires planning permission, as a diversion of a Public Right of Way is required to accommodate the new scheme and this is planned to be before committee in October. It is anticipated that the play area installations will start at the following timescales: Central Park – early to mid September, Rylands Road - mid October, Spearpoint - end of October. In the meantime, outdoor gym equipment has been installed at Rylands Road and is now open for use. Local parents formed a community group and raised funding over the last three years of £24,000 to pay for the outdoor gym. Some of this funding came from Kennington Community Council (£5,000) and Ashford Leisure Trust (£10,000) with the rest from local events. Additionally, two play areas so far this year have been refreshed – Brisely Farm and Goat Lees, completely refreshed the safety surfaces of both. We have a number of others in the pipeline which will come through over the next 3/4 of the year as part of the refurbishment programme. As well as our work at Victoria Park and Con

Code & Short	Description	Baselii	ne Figure		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_23 Indices of multiple deprivation score Annual	Indices of multiple deprivation score	152			 IMD - Rank of average rank (National) - 1 being the most deprived National rank out of 317 local authorities. Deprivation is a multi-dimensional problem and, to reflect this, the Indices of Deprivation are based on a basket of indicators organised across seven distinct types of deprivation or 'domains'. These are: 1. Income Deprivation; 2. Employment Deprivation; 3. Education, Skills and Training Deprivation; 4. Health Deprivation and Disability; 5. Crime; 6. Barriers to Housing and Services; and 7. Living Environment Deprivation. The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) combines information from the seven domains to produce an overall relative measure of deprivation. The latest release is the English Indices of Deprivation 2019 (IoD2019) and is published by central government to help local authorities identify the most disadvantaged areas so that resources and funding can be allocated appropriately.
CP_KPI_24 Health profile indicators for smoking prevalence, healthy weight and physical activity Annual	Health profile indicators for smoking prevalence, healthy weight and physical activity	informa data av <u>Health</u>	vailable at: Profiles - (e and trend Local Authority	 Smoking Prevalence in adults (18+), Source annual Population Survey 10,096 10.1%. Percentage of physically active adults, Source: Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (based on the Active Lives Adult Survey, Sport England) 66.9%. Percentage of adults (18+) classified as overweight or obese, Source: Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (based on the Active Lives Adult Survey, Sport England) 63.5%.
CP_KPI_25 Annual footfall to key leisure sites	Annual footfall to key leisure sites	quarter Quarter Stour c	rly data	ors 82,880	A continued focus on growth of participation is resulting in positive growth in the majority of areas. Positive net member movements meaning a good increase in overall membership numbers and swim learners. Major investment works of the track replacement at Julie Rose Stadium continue to take place with anticipated re- launch later in the year.

Code & Short	Description	Baselin	e Figure		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_28 Exceptional Circumstance Payments spend Annual	Exceptional Circumstance Payments	to June	£20,980.0 0.76 ECP f	CP 2022 April 0 or April 2021	An Exceptional circumstances Policy has been created by Ashford Borough Council to assist persons who have applied for Council Tax Reduction and who are facing 'exceptional circumstances'. This is to provide further assistance where an applicant has made a claim for Council Tax Reduction but do not qualify for support or even with support are unable to meet their Council Tax liability.
CP_KPI_29 Value of grants awarded via community grant fund. Annual	Value of grants awarded via community grant fund	£334,45	i 3.70 for 2	021/22	Grants awarded via Community Grants fund for 2021/2022 year: Community Services Grants £162520 Capital Grants £55,243.00 Member Grants £116,690.70
CP_KPI_31 Trends in volunteering Annual	Trends in volunteering	New me	asure		Trends in Volunteering – Introduced in 2022-2023 so no report for 2021-2022.

Targeted Growth Quarterly Measures

Code & Short	Description	Q3 2021/22		Q4 2021/22		Q1 2022/23	6		Latest Note
Name		Value Target	Status	Value Targ	et Status	Value Targ	jet	Status	
CP_KPI_33 Business survival - current vacancy rates	Business survival, measure based upon our business rates records Current vacancy rates	8.2%	^	8.4%		8.65% Deterioratin	g trer	ıd	5,328 premises - 296 exemptions 165 reliefs
Business survival their accounts.	l, measure based upo	n our business r	ates records c	omparing the	e total numbe	r of rated prer	nises	against those whi	ch have an empty property exemption or relief applied to
CP_KPI_34 Ashford town centre vacancy rate	Ashford town centre vacancy rate	15.4%		14.8%		15.4%			 April 22 332 units 51 empty - 15.4% The area surveyed is the High Street, Middle Row, New Rents, North Street, Bank Street, Tufton Street, County Square, Park Mall and Elwick Place. This is surveyed manually quarterly. Vacancy rates peaked at 20% in September 2020, due to the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic. They are now slowly declining, having reached 15% by April 2022, but remain significantly above the previous low of 8% in November 2017, and remain significantly above national benchmarks, which were 12% in January 2022. There remains significant churn as there are a number of new businesses starting around Elwick Place/Bank Street.

	Description	Q3 20	21/22		Q4 202	21/22		Q1 202	22/23		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
Contribution to budget from commercial investments	Contribution to budget from commercial investments utilising the budgeted figures provided as part of the council's budget books.	85%			85%			92.2%			Figure based on Ellingham, Carlton Road, Elwick Place, International House, Matalan and Wilkos.

Corporate Property Performance Annual Report 2020/21 reports on the revenue performance of the Council's corporate property portfolio during the financial year 2020-2021. It also advises of the work undertaken to increase and maintain the profitability of the portfolio. <u>Agenda for Cabinet on Thursday, 28th October, 2021, 7.00 pm - Modern Council (moderngov.co.uk)</u>

We have seen a decrease in vacancies due to a number of new leases being signed. However, we have seen a percentage decrease in expected income due to the continued impact from the coronavirus pandemic.

	Vacancy rates (in	10.1%	8%	8%	Percentage Occupar	ncy Rate		
CP_KPI_36	our corporate property)				Site	Square foot let	Lettable square foot	Percentage let
Vacancy rates	,							
(in our					Ellingham	64,397 sf	64,397 sf	100.0%
corporate					Carlton Road	33,732 sf	44,496 sf	75.8%
					Elwick Place	92,026 sf	94,351 sf	97.5%
property)					International House	72,800 sf	82,462 sf	88.3%
					Total	262,955 sf	285,706 sf	92.0%

Major sites that we acquired for commercial/investment purposes included. Please note Park Mall and the Commercial Quarter are not included as these were purchased for development and regeneration purposes.

Corporate Property Performance Annual Report 2020/21 reports on the revenue performance of the Council's corporate property portfolio during the financial year 2020-2021. It also advises of the work undertaken to increase and maintain the profitability of the portfolio. Agenda for Cabinet on Thursday, 28th October, 2021, 7.00 pm - Modern Council (moderngov.co.uk)

Code & Short Description		Q3 2021/22			Q4 2021/22			Q1 2022/23			Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_38 to in Digital uptake - In % of total tra council /% co	Digital uptake - % of otal council nteractions /% ncrease ransactions ompleted lectronically.	83%	80%		80%	80%	0	83%	80%		Our current digital uptake target is 80%

	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22	Jun 22
Digital	28814	28557	41561	36267	29458	33040	40621	45027	41839
Transactions									
Total	35515	36030	46663	43816	37003	42147	48597	53878	50379
Transactions									
Digital Uptake	81.13%	79.26%	89.07%	82.77%	79.61%	78.39%	83.59%	83.57%	83.05%

We have seen an increase in digital transactions for quarter 1 2022 (127,487) compared to quarter 1 2021 (110,477). In the last quarter we saw three consecutive months with each having more than 40,000 digital transactions for the first time. In April we had more than 4,000 residents apply for the Energy Rebate Scheme using our online form.

Online payments have stayed approximately the same compared to the same period last year – this is due to garden waste renewals.

The Customer Service, IT and Digital Strategy was adopted at the end of June 2022 with a key focus of keeping the customer at the centre of our services. Customer Service IT Digital Strategy.pdf (moderngov.co.uk)

Social media engagement	New Measure	New Measure		Ashford Borough Council's Communications team is responsible for managing the council's social media accounts. Our most active platforms that residents can engage with the council on, include Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor and Instagram.
			Nextdoor: 78,163k	
			IG: 3k	The data will allow the Council to better understand the needs of our residents and ensure that our social media
			Followers/Subscribers	strategy is shaped by the results of the data.
			FB: 9.9k	
			Twitter: 9k	With over 50,000 combined total followers across all ABC
				engagement engagement times our posts have been shown on a person's screen) Facebook: 972.4k Twitter: 84.4k Nextdoor: 78,163k IG: 3k Followers/Subscribers FB: 9.9k

Code & Short	Description	Q3 202	21/22		Q4 20	21/22		Q1 2022/23			Latest Note		
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status			
								Nextdo IG:2.5	oor: 22k K		social platforms, the Communications Team are also actively exploring methods to further grow each platform through various digital tools so that they can effectively reach more residents across the borough, including those in rural areas.		
CP_KPI_41 Parking usage	Parking usage Ashford and Tenterden Car Parks	250,28	31		250,89	95		243,02 Q1 21-	6 合	72	June 2022 result 70,370 Last 12 months		

Parking Report - Overview of Car Park and on Street Sales for June 2022

Moving into the recovery phase of the pandemic, parking usage is still expected to be down by around 15%, which has been budgeted for in 2022/23. In terms of mitigating the overarching risk, the base budget has now been factored in, including the 15% reduction, with no anticipated increase. Any increase will have a positive impact on the Council.

Innovations to provide improved services and access for all our customers are another way of ensuring we encourage people to visit our towns and come back again. Our cashless parking system is in every car park for those who wish to pay by mobile telephone. This has been a resounding success, with a large take-up from customers.

ABC income figures are taken from Flow bird, RingGo and ANPR systems.

Other relevant information of note - In June, for the Jubilee, we gave free parking for 4 days, which assumed a revenue loss of around £23,500.

Top Performing Car Parks this month

1. Vicarage Lane – £43,752 2. Recreation Ground – £37,480.50 3. Elwick Place – £22,349

June 2022 figures are £193,805 which reflects the loss in revenue for the free parking offered for the Jubilee.

In May, figures were at £217, 240, and in April at £211, 878

In June 2019, the monthly figure was £218,981.04.

Total Financial Year Figures

2019-2020 Income £2,591,786

Code & Short	Q4 20	21/22		Q1 20	22/23		Latest Note				
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
2020-2021	£ 819,698								-		
2021-22	£2,203,918										
Forecast for 202	2-23 - £2,491,692										
Our income is bu	It up of 68% income	from Asl	hford and	32% from Te	nterden						

Targeted Growth Annual Measures

Code &	Description	Baseline f	figure		Latest Note
Short Name		Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_37 Percentage of creative industries in the borough		8.6%			Creative industry enterprises Ashford 2021: 570 enterprises equating to 8.6% of all enterprises fall of 4.2% on the year (25), an 11.8% increase on 5 years. Kent average 9.9%. Economy and employment data - Kent County Council
CP_KPI_40 Percentage of tourism related businesses in the borough	Percentage of tourism related jobs in the borough	6.2%			Tourism enterprises in Ashford 2021: 410 enterprises representing 6.2% of enterprises. This is a 1.2% (5) fall on the previous year but a 12.3% increase from 5 years ago. Employing circa 5000 people. Kent average 8.6%. Food & Drink Production Industries in Kent 2022 Economy and employment data - Kent County Council

Our Principles Quarterly Measures

Code & Short	Description	Q3 202	1/22		Q4 2021	/22		Q1 2022	23		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_42 FOI Response Rate	% of Freedom of Information requests responded to within 20 working days	99%	95%	0	99%	95%		98%	95%		221 requests received in the period - 5 requests responded to outside the 20 working day window.
CP_KPI_43 Business Rates Collection	% of national non- domestic rates collected by the council - cumulative figure per month	79.36%	74.25%	0	97.6%	99%	<u> </u>	30.12%	24.75%	0	Government finance including Ashford Borough Council, covering borrowing and investment, capital payments and receipts, local Council Tax support, quarterly revenue outturn and receipts of Council Taxes and national non- domestic rates are available <u>here</u>
CP_KPI_44 Council Tax Collection Rate	Percentage of council tax collected - cumulative figure per month		73.71%	0	97.4%	98.25%	0	30.1%	24.57%	0	
CP_KPI_45 Percentage of invoices paid on time	Percentage of invoices paid on time	New Me	easure		New Mea	asure		Due to sy	/stem upg	rades the	information will be available from Q2

Code & Short	Description	Q3 2021	/22		Q4 2021/2	22		Q1 2022/2	23		Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_46 Gas Safety Certificates	% of ABC properties with up to date gas safety certificates	99.48%	100%	0	99.54%	100%	0	99.91%	100%	0	Focus continues on ensure access to hard to access properties is expedited maintaining gas safety compliance.
CP_KPI_47 Number of days sickness per full time equivalent		9.96 day	/s per FTE	:	9.96 days	per FTE		Statistics	compiled	6 monthly	

Period 1st Oct 2021 to 30th March 2022

Based on the total FTE as at 31st March 2022 average absence due to sickness and coronavirus is 9.96 days (annualised), up from 6.45 days (annualised) in the previous period.

A total of **515 days** were lost due to Coronavirus, more than the 137 days in the previous period but reflecting the larger number of employees who were unwell as a result of the virus around December to March. This category has now been merged back into sickness so future reports will not show this as a separate absence type (although it will still show as an individual absence reason).

Average absence per FTE due to coronavirus only in this period was 2.02 per FTE (annualised).

A total of 2,021.73 days were lost due to 'normal' sickness.

Average absence due to sickness only in this period was 7.93 per FTE (annualised) up from 5.89 days per FTE (annualised) reported in the last six month period

Service Calls Answered	Answered	CP_KPI_48 fo ca Average Speed of Customer Service Calls	verage wait time r customer service alls		0h 01m 38s	0	0h 01m 35s	0h 01m 38s	0	0h 01m 14s	0h 01m 38s	0	A/L 169 Hours - 12 CSA's Sick 51 Hours - 3 CSA's
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Code & Short	Description	Q3 202	1/22		Q4 2021/	22		Q1 2022			Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_51 Number of ongoing litigation/court proceedings	Number of ongoing litigation/court proceedings	114			140			Number of matters = Number of costs hav against A	• 92 of cases v ve been a	vhere	A considerable number of cases on ASB matters, Fly-tipping and injunction/warrant matters have been successfully concluded/ settled this quarter and not one case has been lost Measure covers those litigation/court proceedings being furthered by legal services.
CP_KPI_52 Number of new 106 files opened	number of new 106 files opened	opened Number agreem	r of draft 10 ents sent c r of 106 cas)6 out – 3	Number of opened – Number of agreemen Number of complete	- 4 of draft 10 nts sent c of 106 cas)6 put – 5	Number of opened - Number of agreemen Number of complete	10 of draft 10 nts sent o	6 ut – 4	In the Q1 period, one Appellant chose to complete 27 s.106 Deeds for each of his two appeals. This reflects the high number of completed cases for this period. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to form a Task Group to review the council's Section 106 process, recommendations available within the final report. <u>S106</u> <u>Task Group - Final Report.pdf (moderngov.co.uk)</u> with a <u>S106 Scrutiny Review</u> – Update provides to the committee in May 22
CP_KPI_53 Planning Application Approvals	% of planning applications approved	88%	90%		85%	90%	•	85%	90%	•	

The Council's ability to determine applications in the Stour catchment part of the Borough continues to be constrained at present by the potential impact of new residential accommodation on the Stodmarsh Lakes European Designated Sites, which lie east of Canterbury.

Without necessary mitigation of additional nitrates caused by new residential development, the granting of planning permission may be regarded as unlawful. A strategic mitigation plan may enable permissions to be granted to the Stour catchment area when secured. In the meantime, this is likely to have a negative impact on the ability of the Council to approve applications. Advice has been given by Natural England on Nutrient Neutrality for new developments in the Stour catchment and more information is available on the planning pages of the council's <u>website</u>.

A Nutrient Mitigation Strategy for the Stour Catchment in Ashford Borough, the first steps to mitigating the issue of water quality degradation at Stodmarsh Lakes, which has impacted new

Code & Short Name	Description	Q3 2021/22			Q4 2021/22			Q1 2022/23			Latest Note
		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
											ptions for new wetland areas should now be explored and Stodmarsh Mitigation Framework.pdf (moderngov.co.uk)
CP_KPI_54 Speed of Major Planning Application Decisions	% of major planning applications determined within 13 weeks (or within such extended period as agreed in writing between the applicant and the local authority)	91%	65%		85%	65%		50%	65%		
CP_KPI_54b % of major planning applications determined within 13 weeks amended to reflect 24 rolling month	% of major planning applications determined within 13 weeks amended to reflect 24 rolling month	87%	75%		85%	75%		82%	75%		

The latest data tables on local government Planning including Ashford Borough Council, covering the speed and quality of planning decisions are available at the following link: Live tables on planning application statistics

Performance remains good across the broader period in respect of major application determinations, although it is recognised that the impact of the Stodmarsh Lakes habitats issue on the ability to determine applications is starting to result in a delay to determination timescales in the short term for residential proposals in the Stour catchment area. Officers will continue to work closely with applicants to ensure that potential solutions can be identified and revised timescales for determination agreed where possible. Given the below target measure for this period which is acknowledged by the service this measure will continue to be closely monitored by the planning team. Given the relatively small number of major applications, a small number of applications delayed beyond the 13 week window can have a significant impact on the reported figure.

In the most recent quarter the determination of a number of older schemes during the application 'clearance week' in May will have had a short term impact on performance during this quarter.

Code & Short	Description	Q3 2021/22			Q4 2021/22			Q1 2022/23			Latest Note
Name		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	
CP_KPI_55 Speed of Non- Major Planning Application Decisions	% of minor and other planning applications determined within 8 weeks (or within such extended period as has been agreed in writing between the applicant and the council).	90%	75%		79%	75%		86%	75%		
CP_KPI_55b % of non majors determined within 8 weeks amended to reflect 24 rolling month	% of non majors determined within 8 weeks amended to reflect 24 rolling month	91%	80%		90%	80%		90%	80%		

The latest data tables on local government Planning including Ashford Borough Council, covering the speed and quality of planning decisions are available at the following link: Live tables on planning application statistics

Performance in non-major schemes remains strong and above target. Enhanced use of officer delegations is helping to maintainperformance levels.

	Number includes all	846	550	839	550	817	550	
CP_KPI_56	conditions							
	applications, pre-							
Number of live	app cases, as well							
planning	as applications for							
casework	outline, full or							
reducing	reserved matters							
backlog	consent. Reducing							
Ŭ	backlog with a							
	capacity set at 550							
	open cases							

Code & Short	Description	Q3 2021/22			Q4 2021/2	Q4 2021/22			Q1 2022/23		
e		Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	Value	Target	Status	

Application numbers have continued to increase and a combination of Stodmarsh, a high number of vacant posts in the team from Spring 21 onwards and the resources required to implement the new planning system has resulted in the number of live applications remaining stubbornly high. In order to ensure cases may be determined as swiftly as possible once a strategic mitigation solution for Stodmarsh is brought forward and consented, officers are taking cases to the point where proposals can be agreed in all other aspects pending the nutrient mitigation solution. This includes any applications where a Committee resolution may be required and/or a Section 106 Agreement to deal with other matters. The service conducted a successful applications clearance week designed to shift a lot of our older applications that have built up over the last 12 months. This freed planning officers for one week to focus purely on making planning decisions and was successful in enabling over 150 applications to be determined. Without this proactive activity the number of live applications would be higher and further consideration will be given to repeating the exercise in the future in order to reduce the overall number of live cases once the new planning software system has been fully embedded in the service.

Staffing resources are now more stable in the Development Management Team with most posts now filled on a permanent basis and reducing consultancy support. This trend is expected to continue but will be managed against on-going caseload numbers.

Our Principles Annual Measure

Code &	Description	Baseline f	igure		Latest Note					
Short Name		Value	Target	Status						
	% of complaints resolved as stage 1	85.62%			320 stage 1 complaints received Jan-Dec 2021, of which 46 escalated to stage 2. Slight increase on the number dealt with at first point (stage 1)					
CP_KPI_50 Mean Gender Pay Gap	The difference in average pay between men and women in the council's workforce.	8.8%			 8.8% - data is retrospective so relates to 31 March 2021 The difference in average pay between men and women in the council's workforce, expressed relative to men's earnings. A positive figure indicates that women are paid less than men on average. A negative figure indicates that the average pay for women in the organisation is higher than the average pay for men. Further information and previous reports available at: <u>Ashford Borough Council's statistics on the gender pay gap for 2021.</u> 					