

**SUBJECT: Stage 2 Improvement Plan**

**MEETING: County Council**

**DATE: 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

**DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: All**

**1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To seek council approval of the Stage 2 Improvement Plan for 2014/15.
- 1.2 To ensure that members have access to comparative performance information for 2014-15.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the Stage 2 Improvement Plan 2014/15 be approved

**3. KEY ISSUES**

- 3.1 The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 places a duty on local authorities to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of their functions.
- 3.2 As part of the Wales Programme for Improvement councils must:
  - Set Improvement Objectives at the beginning of each business year. These are included in the Stage 1 Improvement Plan agreed by council in April/May each year.
  - Collect evidence of progress made and outcomes achieved during the year and publish a report on that information. This is reported in the Stage 2 Improvement Plan published each October.
- 3.3 This Stage 2 Improvement Plan covers the period April 2014 to March 2015 and relates to objectives that members agreed in May 2014. The forward looking Stage 1 Plan for 2015/16 was agreed by council in April. Progress on that plan will be formally reported in October 2016 although select committees will have the opportunity to scrutinise progress throughout the year.
- 3.4 The Improvement Plan is a public document and should be accessible to a wide audience. The plan will be published on the council's website.
- 3.5 A public summary of the plan will be prepared. This will be made available through the one-stop-shops, reception areas and libraries and on the council's website and must also be published no later than the end of October 2015.
- 3.6 The plan describes progress with our four Improvement Objectives and assesses each one using a six point scale with ranges from unsatisfactory to

excellent. It also brings together national performance measures used by all council's in Wales. During 2014-15 84% of indicators in the national set improved or were at the maximum level which makes Monmouthshire the second ranked authority in Wales. 44% of measures were in the top-quartile which makes us the third ranked authority in Wales on this measure. We have seen a reduction in indicators in the bottom quartile over the past three years and are ranked second in Wales on this measure.

#### **4. REASONS**

- 4.1 To ensure that the council can be held to account for performance and can demonstrate progress towards delivering better outcomes for citizens.
- 4.2 To comply with the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

#### **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

None

#### **6 EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS**

This plan is an evaluation of previous commitments and is not seeking a decision which would have an impact on these issues

#### **7 CONSULTEES**

Senior Leadership Team  
Cabinet  
Select Committees – Scrutiny of progress against the four Improvement Objectives during June and July 2015

#### **8 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Stage 1 Improvement Plan 2014-15

#### **9 AUTHORS**

Matthew Gatehouse, Policy and Performance Manager  
01633 644397 / 0778 555 6727  
[MatthewGatehouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:MatthewGatehouse@monmouthshire.gov.uk)

Richard Jones, Policy and Performance Officer  
[RichardJones@Monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:RichardJones@Monmouthshire.gov.uk)

Teresa Norris, Policy and Performance Officer  
[TeresaNorris@Monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:TeresaNorris@Monmouthshire.gov.uk)