

Item No. 8.	Classification: Open	Date: 29 January 2013	Meeting Name: Cabinet
Report title:		Fairer Future Interim Performance Report	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
Cabinet Member:		Councillor Fiona Colley, Regeneration and Corporate Strategy	

FOREWORD - COUNCILLOR FIONA COLLEY, CABINET MEMBER FOR REGENERATION AND CORPORATE STRATEGY

This report provides an update on how the council is delivering on the Fairer Future promises we made in 2011 through our first council plan. Each of these promises is contributing towards realising the council's vision for a fairer future for all in Southwark where everyone has equal access to the opportunities that central London has to offer. Underpinning our vision is a commitment to treat those we interact with as if they were members of our family and to spend every penny as if it were our own.

To help realise this vision we are modernising the way we work, we are cutting our management costs and doing more with less. In these difficult times, we will continue to protect our most vulnerable residents and treat people fairly. We also understand that Southwark businesses are looking to us to provide an attractive business environment where innovation flourishes. All the while we are improving the experience people and organisations have of the services we provide. This report provides an in-year view on progress against the promises and objectives we have set the organisation. At the end of the financial year we will provide a full update on delivery of the council plan in our Fairer Future Annual Report 2012/13.

RECOMMENDATION

That cabinet

1. Notes progress in the first half of 2012/13 against the ten fairer future promises and portfolio performance objectives in the council plan.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. On 6 July 2011 council assembly approved a new council plan. This set out how the council will work to achieve its Fairer Future for All vision in an environment of significantly reduced funding to the council and the public sector more widely. Ten fairer future promises were agreed with a further set of objectives outlined in performance schedules for each cabinet member portfolio area.
3. The council plan placed local needs and accountability as the drivers of the council's performance improvement. Over 2010/11 a number of changes were made to the performance monitoring and reporting requirements of the council by central government. These included abolition of the national indicator set and the end of the requirement for local area agreements. The council therefore had greater flexibility to develop a business plan to meet local priorities.

4. An Annual Performance report was presented to cabinet in July 2012 to note progress made over 2011/12, the first year of the council plan. During the 2012/13 the council has continued to monitor performance against the ten promises and objectives in the council plan, with performance data and project updates reviewed on a quarterly basis. The reviewing of performance in-year enables us to take corrective action to ensure that we meet our end of year targets.
5. This interim performance report provides a summary of progress over the first six months of 2012/13 against the ten promises agreed in the council plan. It will be made available on the council's website as part of our fairer future principle of being open, honest and accountable.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

6. Following engagement with local people through the council's budget process, the council plan identified a number of principles that now underpin our Fairer Future for all vision and guide the promises and objectives that we agreed through the council plan. The Fairer Future principles have been updated to the following:
 - Treating residents as we would wish members of our own families to be treated
 - Being open, honest and accountable
 - Spending money as if it were coming from our own pocket
 - Working for everyone to realise their potential
 - Making Southwark a place to be proud of.
7. The Fairer Future interim report detailed in Appendix 1 outlines some of key the things we've delivered in the first six months of 2012/13 in line with our Fairer Future principals.
8. At the core of the council plan are the council's ten Fairer Future promises. The focusing in on ten key promises is recognition that in times of reduced funding from central government we need to focus our resources on the areas where we can achieve the maximum impact to help meet our vision. The ten Fairer Future promises continue to be:

Promise 1 - "Provide improved value for money and keep council tax increases below inflation"

Promise 2 - "Work with residents and the police to make the borough safer for all by cracking down on antisocial behaviour and implementing our new violent crime strategy"

Promise 3 - "Deliver the first three years of our five year plan to make every council home warm, dry and safe".

Promise 4 - "Improve our customer service with more online services, including delivery of a better housing repairs service, independently verified by tenants".

Promise 5 - "Introduce free healthy school meals for all primary school pupils, and champion improved educational attainment for our borough's children".

Promise 6 - "Support vulnerable people to live independent, safe and healthy lives by giving them more choice and control over their care".

Promise 7 - "Encourage healthy lifestyles by transforming Burgess Park, opening a new swimming pool at Elephant and Castle and awarding £2m to local projects to leave a lasting Olympic legacy".

Promise 8 - "Open Canada Water library in autumn 2011, open a library in Camberwell and conduct a thorough review of the library service".

Promise 9 - "Bring the full benefits and opportunities of regeneration to all Southwark's residents and build new family homes on the Aylesbury Estate and at Elephant and Castle".

Promise 10 - "Double recycling rates from 20 per cent to 40 per cent by 2014 and keep our streets clean".

9. Good progress has been made across all the fairer future promises in the first half of 2012/13. This includes rolling out our free healthy school meals programme to years 2 to 4, delivering personal budgets to 63% of eligible users and completing our Burgess Park revitalisation project. Progress against the Fairer Future promises is outlined in full in Appendix 1.

Community impact statement

10. The purpose of this report is for cabinet to note progress in 2012/13 against the promises agreed in the council plan. No specific equality analysis has been undertaken for this report as there are no impacts on the community arising from the report itself. Future decisions made on the basis of council performance as highlighted by this report may require equality analysis to be undertaken and more detailed consideration of the impact on local people and communities as appropriate.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Director of Legal Services

11. It was previously a requirement for local authorities to publish a best value performance plan. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 removed the powers of the Secretary of State to specify performance indicators and standards for local authorities, the duty on authorities to meet such standards and to publish best value performance plans. However, a local authority is still under a general duty of best value to "make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness." The council plan is one of the ways the council can demonstrate that it is achieving this requirement.
12. Any updates that cabinet agrees to the targets in the council plan will need to be adopted by council assembly as it approved the original council plan, including the targets, in July 2011.
13. No specific equality analysis has been undertaken for this report, as there are no impacts on the community arising from the report itself, but cabinet is reminded

of the requirement to have due regard to the public sector equality duty set out in s.149 Equality Act 2010 in its future deliberations and conclusions.

Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services

14. The financial implications of the annual performance report will be assessed by each department and any resultant commitments shall be managed within the annual budget cycle.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Council Plan Annual Performance Report 2011/12	http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/200342/council_plan	Alex Irvine – alex.irvine@southwark.gov.uk
Council Plan 2011-14	http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/200342/council_plan	Alex Irvine – alex.irvine@southwark.gov.uk

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	A fairer future for all in Southwark – Interim performance report 2012/13 (circulated separately and available on the council's website)

AUDIT TRAIL

Cabinet Member	Councillor Fiona Colley, Regeneration and Corporate Strategy	
Lead Officer	Eleanor Kelly, Chief Executive	
Report Author	Alex Irvine, Principal Strategy Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	17 January 2013	
Key Decision?	Yes	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Director of Legal Services	Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services	Yes	Yes
Cabinet Member	Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	17 January 2013	