

Committee: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 16 March 2023

**Title of Report: Corporate Performance Monitoring Report -
Quarter 3 2022/23**

Report by: Jo Moore, Interim Director of Finance (s151 Officer)

Cabinet Member: Stewart Young, Leader of the Council

What is the Report About? (Executive Summary)

1. The purpose of this report is to provide Cabinet with a final report for Cumbria County Council corporate performance in advance of local government reorganisation.
2. This report reflects on the Council's achievements and delivery of the Council Plan 2018-2023 and highlights a number of key successes in delivering the four Council Plan outcomes in 2022/23, despite a context of unprecedented global and local challenges.
3. The report focuses on the position of the Council Plan Delivery Plan at Quarter 3 2022/23, covering the three-month period from 1 October 2022 to 31 December 2022.
4. The report highlights that the Council has continued to achieve financial sustainability whilst improving services for our customers, a transformed digital offer, and introducing more effective and efficient ways of working. This has been achieved against the background of responding to an unprecedented cost of living crisis and inflationary pressures that have impacted all areas of the Council, recovery from the global Covid-19 pandemic and the significant challenges in responding to the local government agenda and associated uncertainties about the shape of service delivery in the future.

Recommendation of the Director

5. That Cabinet note overall performance relating to delivery of the implementation of the four Council Plan outcomes and context indicators, focusing on the indicators identified in the Council Plan Delivery Plan 2022/23 for the Quarter ending 31 December 2022.

Background to the Proposals

6. As a result of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) within Cumbria, a 12-month extension to the existing four-year Council Plan was agreed by Cabinet in March 2022, and the Council Plan 2018-2022 will now run until 31

March 2023. This supports a consistent focus on delivery of the broader outcomes across the Council in a rapidly changing working landscape.

7. To support the new Council Plan, a new Council Plan Delivery Plan 2022-23 was agreed by Cabinet in March 2022. The purpose of the Delivery Plan remains the same: to set out the key actions that the Council has committed to in order to successfully deliver the Council Plan.
8. The new Council Plan Delivery Plan 2022-23 contains 67 indicators, combining both qualitative and quantitative performance information. These 67 indicators are categorised into outcomes and themes plus a set of new 'context indicators' - indicators that the council contribute to but do not fully own.
9. The new themed areas and their alignment to Council Plan outcomes are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 - CPDP 2022/23 Outcomes and Themed Areas

Council Plan Outcome	Themed area	No. of Indicators
New ways of working and achieving financial sustainability	Customer focus	5
	Service delivery	7
	Workforce & Infrastructure	4
People in Cumbria are Healthy and Safe	Adults and Older People	8
	Children and Young People	5
	Fire and Community Safety	4
	Population health	3
Places in Cumbria are Well Connected and Thriving	Educational Attainment/Outcome	8
	Thriving places	5
	Transport	6
The Economy in Cumbria is growing and benefits everyone	Economy	8
Context	Context indicators	4

10. Appendix 2 includes a summary for each themed area for the Quarter ending 31 December 2022. Each summary provides an update on relevant indicators, a summary of related Corporate Risks and financial impacts. Taken together, these provide an overview of the resource and management of the Council in delivering the Council Plan and fulfilling its statutory duties. Cabinet will also be briefed on the Corporate Risk Register.
11. During Quarter 3 22/23 the wider landscape for Performance Report includes a number of unprecedented events which have a significant impact on Cumbria, its residents and the work of Cumbria County Council.
 - **The 'Cost of Living Crisis'** is driving national and local government agendas to mitigate impact within communities
 - **Local Government Reorganisation** preparations continue to accelerate, creating additional competing priorities

- **Inflationary pressures** are beginning to increase cost and reduce availability of service provision
 - **COVID Response and Recovery** - Covid continues to have a direct and disruptive effect on staff shortages, with increased sickness absence levels between April and June.
12. In this challenging and uncertain context the Council has continued to support our most vulnerable residents to keep them safe and healthy, support our communities to thrive, protect and improve our environment, improve our local physical and digital infrastructure, and support economic growth.
13. This covering report includes the highlights of achievements, areas of improvement, items with short term issues and updates on the longer-term issues for indicators at Quarter 3 2022/23. Highlights include:
- New Ways of Working and Achieving Financial Sustainability*
14. The Single Point of Access digital service project is nearing completion as a key element of continuing service improvement, culture change and new ways of working. The initial phase of the library workforce and infrastructure development is completed and improvements to Carlisle and Kendal libraries on track. This builds on the successful transformation of the new library in Barrow.
15. The Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service has worked to ensure that measures are in place to deliver against the Grenfell Tower inquiry outcomes and legislative changes.
16. The Council also continues its work on increasing the positive impacts of its own commissioning activity on the local economy with 32% of spend with Cumbrian SMEs.
- People in Cumbria are Healthy and Safe*
17. Strength-based practice has continued to be embedded in social care and underpins actions to respond to increasing demand. The service has broadly maintained the same level of 80% of adults having no or reduced need for social care following reablement. It is disappointing that the number of adults having unmet needs has still to reduce as hoped but sound health and care system plans have been developed to cope with winter pressures and industrial action. The completion of a market position statement and cost of care has been a significant piece of work over the last year.
18. The Children and Families Partnership are establishing baselines and indicators to develop a better understanding of young people's emotional health and wellbeing to inform future decision-making on support.
19. The successful implementation of our Children Looked After and Care Leavers Strategy is on track and continues to be overseen by the Corporate Parenting Board.

20. There continues to be increasing demand for children's services at all levels. and the number of children looked after continues to be a challenge although is set in the context of a wider challenge across the north-west. New approaches to supporting those with complex needs has successfully reduced some pressures, but they are offset by workforce shortages of social care workers combined with inflationary pressures on costs for agency staff
21. There remains continued pressure on the Schools High Needs Block which faces a significant forecast deficit. This is a long-term issue and can be attributed to a number of external pressures, such as changes to the EHCP reform and the increased need for out-of-county placements. Two new Alternative Provision Centres are being built in Carlisle and Barrow which may relieve some of this pressure.

Places in Cumbria are Well Connected and Thriving

22. It is important to note that 91.3% of schools are now rated as outstanding or good, and 46.2% of pupils attained GCSE grade of 9-5 in English and Maths. The percentage of young people (16-17 years) participating in education and training and employment continues to remain high at 91.7% and above the England average of 88.5%.
23. The Council has also secured the highest band of funding from the Department for Transport achievable. A new customer front end and reporting system for Highways has also now been implemented as part of ongoing work to improve customer experience.

The economy in Cumbria is growing and benefits everyone

24. The council has worked with partners to secure investment through a number of initiatives including Town Deals. Deals are now approved for Barrow, Carlisle, Cleator Moor, Millom and Workington. Projects have also been developed and delivered aimed at improving the local environment and sustainability, including the Coastal Community Forest and Planting for Pollinators.
25. In addition, the completion of a carbon baseline audit and strategy helped the Council to consider its approach to net carbon zero over the year.
26. Details of the key metrics underpinning the four Council Plan objectives are provided in further detail in the report and the position for the 67 indicators in the CPDP is detailed in Appendix A. This report will inform the baseline position for Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness councils on 1st April 2023.
27. The report suggests an overall positive position of performance at Quarter 3 2022/23 for the Council Plan Delivery Plan, whilst highlighting some areas for consideration for the future as the two new unitary councils are established.

Corporate Performance Overview

28. The Council Plan Delivery Plan Quarter 3 2022/23 provides qualitative and quantitative information to describe how well the Council is performing against 67 performance indicators aligned to the Council Plan outcomes.
29. A summary of the position of these indicators as at the end of Quarter 3 2022/23 is provided in Figure 1.

Figure 1 - CPDP Summary Position of Indicators at End of Quarter 3 2022/23



30. The overall position by the end of Quarter 3 2022/23 was that the majority, 36 of the 63 (57%) Council Plan Delivery Plan indicators had delivered, met or were on track to meet the planned milestone and rated green, 16 (25%) were in progress and at risk of missing the milestone and rated amber. For the same period 11 indicators (17%) were expected to miss a key milestone or not fully deliver as intended and therefore rated red
31. Compared to Quarter 2 2022/23 this is a worsening position, with 6 more indicator RAG rated red and 1 less indicator RAG rated green.
32. The outcome of 'The economy in Cumbria is growing and benefits everyone' has the highest proportion of green RAG rated indicators (75%), whereas 'Places in Cumbria are well connected and thriving' has the highest proportion of Red RAG rated indicators (32%).

Performance across the broader context

33. The Council Plan Delivery Plan Quarter 3 2022/23 includes four contextual indicators that the council contribute to but do not fully own, providing context for the performance landscape of the Council.
34. A summary of the position of these indicators as at the end of Quarter 3 2022/23 is provided in Figure 2.

Figure 2 - CPDP Summary Position of Contextual Indicators at End of Quarter 3 2022/23



35. These indicators suggest there is not significant variance from national trends across the context measures, and no indicators are RAG rated Red at this time. However, whilst claimant counts are still slightly higher than pre-pandemic months, the claimant count rate in Cumbria is 2.4% which is 1.2 percentage points below the national rate of 3.6%. Although employment rates are slightly higher in Cumbria (78.6%) compared to national (75.4%), this difference is not significant. Cumbria's working age population qualified to at least level 2 is similar to national figures (76.2% compared to 78.1%).

Options Considered and Risks Identified

36. Where performance is flagged red, amber or deteriorating in performance direction of travel, it is anticipated that service managers in the new Unitary councils will consider options to ensure performance is back on track, within target, or to increase the pace of improvement.
37. Where performance is flagged green, it is anticipated that service managers in the new Unitary councils will consider the options for delivering further improvement, setting more ambitious targets, or reducing performance in some areas to an acceptable level to invest in other lower performing services
38. A number of performance risks have been flagged red in Appendix 1. These indicators could have an adverse impact on the Council's reputation, service standards and / or Council budget and therefore mitigating actions are required to reduce these risks; details of which are included and linkage to corporate risks are highlighted in Appendix 1 (where appropriate).

Reasons for the recommendation/key benefits

39. The recommendations are intended to:
 - Ensure public accountability for corporate performance and that the Council can demonstrate a good level of public performance reporting.
 - Enable Cabinet to celebrate areas of Council services that are performing well and to consider appropriate action if performance is not at an acceptable level within the context of LGR.
 - Support new Unitary Council's in understanding the need for transparency and accountability at officer level for corporate performance and for the delivery of Council Plan priorities.

Financial – what resources will be needed and how will it be funded?

40. The Council's Corporate Performance Report provides progress on the 2022/23 Council Plan Delivery Plan for the period ending 31st December 2022.
41. The Council Plan 2018-2023 sets out the Council's priorities and aspirations. The resource and value for money implications of the plan are considered as part of the annual budget planning process.
42. Appendix 1 includes summary commentary in relation to direct financial impacts of those indicators set out against the Outcomes, New Ways of Working and Achieving Financial Sustainability.

Legal Aspects – what needs to be considered?

43. It is a function of Cabinet to implement the Council Plan and to consider and review reports on the Council's performance. The report is for noting and there are no direct legal implications.

Health and Safety – what needs to be considered/noted?

44. The Council has a responsibility under the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, that adequate health and safety provisions are in place.
45. Whilst there are no direct health and safety related implications arising from the performance report itself, it is noted that a number of performance indicators have consideration for ensuring a strong health, safety and wellbeing culture in line with the Council's corporate health, safety and wellbeing policy statement last agreed by Cabinet in July 2021.

Council Plan Priority

46. The revised Council Plan Delivery Plan 2022/23, and Qtr 3 2022/23, sets out the Council's key programmes of work and activity to deliver on the outcomes set out in the Council Plan 2018/23. The content of this report highlights the extent to which commitments and targets have been met.

What is the Impact of the Decision on Health Inequalities and Equality and Diversity Issues?

47. An Equality Impact Assessment was carried out in respect of the Council Plan 2018/22.
48. It is the responsibility of the relevant Assistant Director to ensure that the considerations raised in any Service Equality Impact Assessment are considered when planning and delivering services.

Appendices and Background Documents

Appendix 1 – Summary of Overall Performance and Q3

Appendix 2 – Council Plan Delivery Plan Performance Report - Quarter 3 2022/23.

Key Facts

Electoral Division(s): All

Executive Decision	Key Decision Included in Forward Plan	Exempt from call-in	Exemption agreed by scrutiny chair	Considered by scrutiny, if so detail below	Environmental or sustainability assessment undertaken?	Equality impact assessment undertaken?
√	√	No	N/A	No	N/A	N/A

Approved by the relevant Cabinet Member/s on 16/03/22

Previous relevant Council or Executive decisions

None

Consideration by Overview & Scrutiny

None

Background Papers

None

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08/02/23

Summary of Performance at Quarter 3 2022/23

Achievements

Action	Indicator description	Summary of update
1.1	Complete the digital service projects including Single Point of Access (SPA) and website development (to ensure that our website content is ready for the 2 new authorities)	The SPA project is largely complete in relation to service improvement, culture change and new ways of working. The next stage is continued engagement with partners, including health to deliver system wide improvement. This will be an ongoing process of improvement. Significant steps have already been achieved. The website project is well advanced and on target for completion within timescales.
1.2	Complete the library workforce and infrastructure development programme, continued transformation programme for Carlisle and Kendal libraries	The library reshape and culture initial phase (new ways of working and customer focus) is now complete. There will be a process of ongoing improvement and change. Both Kendal and Carlisle are on track with any issues being picked up through relevant working groups.
2.19	The number of accidental primary dwelling fires to be less than 241 in 2022/23	CFRS have been working with partners from Health and Social Care to ensure that our Safe and Well Visits are targeted at the most vulnerable. It is pleasing to see that the number of Accidental Dwelling Fire's is predicted to be well below target. Recent cold weather and Cost of Living concerns may affect this figure, but work will continue to achieve this target.
3.5	The percentage of outstanding or good schools increased to be at least in line with national.	Current data reflects 91.3% of schools are good or better across the county. This exceeds the target of 89% and is higher than Q2 figure of 90.6%.
3.11	Maintenance of Level 3 funding from the Department for Transport.	Band 3 (Highest Band) was confirmed by DfT in March 2022 along with confirmation of funding for 2022/23. Highways improvements as set out in the Highways Asset Management Strategy have progressed adopting a risk based approach and whole life costs of all highway assets. Submission of the next annual self-assessment is expected to be completed in Q4.
3.18	The 'September Guarantee' duty (where all young people aged 16 and 17 receive a suitable offer of learning) to 98% or higher for 2022/23.	This is measured annually and no confirmed data will be available until early 2023. However, provisional 2022 data suggests that 97.9% of the Year 11 and Year 12 cohort had received a suitable offer of training/education in Cumbria at the start of the 2022/23 academic year. If confirmed, this would be 3.2 percentage points above the England average and 0.3 percentage points higher than in 2021.
4.1	Establish an organisation level Carbon baseline by 2022.	This is now completed with the adoption of the strategy by Cabinet in September 2022.

Action	Indicator description	Summary of update
3.20	The proportion of permanent exclusions reduced from 0.10%.	Access and Inclusion Officers continue to work with schools to seek alternatives to permanent exclusion wherever possible and provide challenge where appropriate. Training for governors is ongoing and dates is being offered during the autumn term.
4.3	<p>Develop and deliver meaningful initiatives and projects to support key areas including the Environment, Natural Capital, Sustainability, and Biodiversity for the benefit of Cumbria’s residents and visitors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cumbria Coastal Community Forest (CCF) – from March 2022 • Planting for Pollinators (September 2021 - March 2023) 	<p>Cumbria Coastal Community Forest (CCCF) – The Forest team continues to grow, which has meant increased capacity to work with landowners to identify potential sites, and the pipeline for this year looks promising with a high confidence in delivering 20ha this winter - with sites identified across West Cumbria from Barrow up to Carlisle. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs confirmed additional funding, which will be vital in enabling the project to achieve its hectare target of 150ha by March 2025.</p> <p>Planting for Pollinators (P4P) – After a very successful year for the P4P team, 2022 ended with 53 sites planted, 158 hectares of habitat improved or restored for pollinators, 50,000 wildflower plugs planted, over 250kg of wildflower meadow seed spread, 2,500 people engaged in pollinator activities – events, volunteering, course attendance and nearly 5,000 hours of volunteer time given to the project.</p> <p>Alongside these figures they have helped the Cumbria Local Nature Partnership to develop an Action Plan for Cumbria’s pollinators – PLAN BEE, which is being finalised and will be shared shortly.</p> <p>The success of this project and working in partnership with Cumbria Wildlife Trust has enabled this project to secure permission from the National Lottery to extend for 3 more months, and with funding from the local area committees the P4P project will spread across Cumbria into Barrow, South Lakes and extending the area in Copeland.</p> <p>Local Authority Treescapes – Barrow Cumbria County Council successfully secured £228,000 funding from Forestry Commission for Highways tree planting in Barrow. The Local Area Committee matched this funding with £190,000 of their Environment Fund so this has enabled 71 trees to be planted across Barrow. The planting started before Christmas with 47 trees planted (a mixture of Rowan and Whitebeam) in verges in different locations across Barrow and a further 24 pits are being dug out and planted on Abbey Road to help restore its tree filled landscape.</p>

Action	Indicator description	Summary of update
3.19	The participation in education, training and employment of 16-17 year olds to exceed 92.6% for 2022/23.	In November 2022, 91.7% of young people (aged 16/17) were participating in activity meeting the participation requirements under the Duty (in full time education or training, in an apprenticeship, in employment with regulated qualifications or working towards one of those). This is 0.6 percentage points lower than a year ago but is above the England average of 88.5%. The most common forms of participation in November 2022 were full time education or training (77.6%) or an Apprenticeship (12.5%). On average for the year to date 92.1% of young people have been participating which is close to the annual target of 92.6%.
4.5	We will continue to take the lead enabling role for multi-agency recovery from COVID-19 in Cumbria maximising opportunities and facilitating recovery across the county, with our communities	The Recovery Strategy Outcomes Framework is now fully embedded in the plans for the Strategic Partnerships and monitoring is through the relevant mechanisms for the partnerships. Any issues can be escalated to the Chief Executive's Group.
4.8	Initiate programmes of work relating to delivery Cumbria Transport and Infrastructure Plan	Work to develop a number of concepts set out within the Transport and Infrastructure Plan is now starting to progress with a new Rural Mobility Framework in development.

Areas of Improvement

Action	Indicator description	Summary of update
1.3	80% of corporate complaints dealt with satisfactorily at informal stage.	In Q3, there were 294 concerns received and 251 resolved within the quarter - a rate of 85%. This compares to 87% in Q2, and sustains good performance above the target of 80%.
2.16	A market position statement for adult social care and cost of care exercise to be completed by March 2023.	Submission documents were submitted to DSHC on 14 October 2022 in line with DHSC requirements. Versions of the Annex B reports are due for publication on the Council website by end of February 2023. An updated version of the Market Sustainability Plan is to be completed by end of March 2023 to reflect changes to charging reform timescales and predicted impact on the wider market.
2.11	Residential occupation rates of Cumbria Care available beds to be 95% or greater.	The occupancy has increased by 4% from Q2 with an increased use of beds for intermediate, reablement and rehabilitation purposes. This has allowed homes to support the health and social care system by offering support to a different cohort of people, in addition to providing support and placements for people needing residential or dementia care.
3.12	Continue to develop opportunities to provide bus services to communities that have limited or no provision.	<p>We have recently recruited an Enhanced Partnership Officer who will work with bus operators and community transport organisations to look to improve bus services across Cumbria. This will include exploring any funding which may become available. The Council is also looking to introduce various passenger transport initiatives during 2023. We will launch a series of scheduled public bus services for areas with limited or no available provision. We will also launch a series of digital, demand-responsive transport solutions for the rural areas surrounding Egremont/St Bees, Penrith, Ulverston and Wigton. These will cover areas of the county where there are currently little or no scheduled bus services. If these are successful, we will look to expand the services into other areas.</p> <p>In September 2022 the Government announced details of an initiative to provide up to £60 million from January to March 2023 to help bus operators to cap single, adult fares at £2 per journey. Seven of Cumbria's bus operators are participating in this initiative which it is envisaged will increase the number of passengers using local bus services and assist travellers with the current cost of living pressures.</p>

Areas with short term issues

Action	Indicator description	Summary of update
1.4	90% of FOI and EIR requests dealt with within 20 day statutory timescale.	During Q3, there were 299 requests received and 226 were responded to within 20 working days (76%). This compares to 80% in Q2. Service responses have been slower over recent months, and feedback from teams suggests that they are stretched with other priorities (i.e. LGR).
1.16	Deliver a fully funded Cumbria Local Government Pension Scheme (CLGPS) by ensuring the target for administration casework performance is achieved (or exceeded) and investment performance is in line with (or outperforms) CLGPS's bespoke investment benchmark over 10 years during 2022/23.	<p>Investment performance: The third quarter of 2022 continued to be challenging for investors as markets continued to experience economic and geo-political headwinds. Persistently high inflation, energy-price shocks from the Russia-Ukraine conflict, accelerated interest rate hikes and slowing growth momentum have combined to keep market volatility elevated. Against this backdrop the Fund's 1 year performance fell just short of its bespoke benchmark (-4.0% versus a benchmark of -3.7%) but its performance over the quarter, 3 year, 5 year and 10 year periods exceeded its benchmark (10 year performance was 8.1% versus its benchmark of 7.2%).</p> <p>The most recent data available for performance against the targets for casework administration is for the quarter ended 30th September 2022 was just over 70%. This poor performance is due to three factors (as previously reported), none of which are expected to have a long-term impact. Two were anticipated - the phased implementation of a new system and the implementation of higher performance targets (the targeted timescales for a number of activities have been halved). One - the failure of a server - was not anticipated but was resolved quickly with limited impact on performance thanks to robust business continuity arrangements. Indications are that performance in the quarter ended 31st December has picked up again with 92.3% of cases meeting the agreed target in October and a draft position for November of 99.3%.</p>
2.10	Increased number and % of people with no ongoing needs or reduced needs following reablement	For Q3 22/23, following reablement 80% of people had no ongoing needs or reduced needs. Of the 80% in Q3, 62% of those exiting the service had no ongoing formal care needs, and 18% had reduced needs. This compares to 85% in Q2 22/23 and so shows a worsening direction of travel, however the percentage with no ongoing needs (as opposed to those with reduced needs) is maintaining at approximately 66% since April 2022.

Action	Indicator description	Summary of update
3.13	The percentage of pupils in Key Stage 2, achieving the expected standard in Reading Writing and Mathematics combined. Disadvantaged and all pupils	Cumbrian results show a larger decline than national from a position of above national outcomes pre-pandemic. Cumbria was given permission for additional actions to prevent further viral spread within our schools in 2021-22, due to high levels of pupil and staff absence. Despite hard work of schools, many children were unable to reach the expected standard consistently across all three subjects as pupils have not completed a full programme of study due to absences. Writing practice and stamina were negatively hit and so schools were justly more conservative in awarding teacher assessed grades for this subject. Positive Ofsted outcomes during 2021-2022, and since, reflect schools are delivering a good or outstanding quality of education with pupils now making considerable progress across all areas.
3.14	The percentage of pupils attaining GCSE 9-5 in English and Mathematics to increase from 43.3% and be in line with or better than the national level.	<p>The proportion of children achieving passes in English and Maths at grades 4+ increased for all pupils from 63.8% in 2019 to 67.0% in 2022. For disadvantaged pupils this has increased from 40.6% in 2019 to 42.9% in 2022. At grades 5+, there has also been an increase from 40.6% in 2019 to 46.2% in 2022, and from 20.8% to 23.3% for disadvantaged pupils.</p> <p>Curriculum delivery and coverage have been affected due to continuous disruption over the last 2 years. This leaves children at a disadvantage when compared to previous cohorts, and should be used to put into context any patterns of results for this year. Comparisons to national data will also need to take into account considerable variability in the impact of Covid across the country. During the pandemic, the DfE collected attendance data for vulnerable groups of pupils and Cumbria's attendance data shows, for some groups of pupils (such as those eligible for Free School Meals) significant periods where students had lower attendance compared to the national levels. Reflecting this, both sets of results are below national – by 3.8 points for all pupils and 6.0 points for disadvantaged pupils.</p>
3.15	The overall Progress 8 score continues to improve from -0.11 and is at least in line with the national level.	Overall Progress 8 data is significantly below national for all pupils (-0.18 Cumbria compared to -0.03 nationally) and for disadvantaged pupils (-0.83 Cumbria compared to -0.55 nationally). The split of the new Local Authorities shows a significant difference between Cumberland at -0.25 compared to Westmorland and Furness (W&F) -0.08. This places W&F in line with the target set for 2022 but both are poorer than national levels. We cannot make a direct comparison with 2019 data and that of 2022.

Action	Indicator description	Summary of update
3.16	Outcomes for SEND (school support pupils) at Key Stage 2 achieving the expected standard in Reading Writing and Mathematics to be in line with national level.	19.0% of SEND pupils achieved the expected standard at KS2 in Reading, Writing and Mathematics in Cumbria, compared to 21.2% nationally. Two years of continued disruption due to Covid have affected all test and exams this year. Strategies for children to 'catch-up' regarding their learning are in place and will continue for the next few years. Curriculum delivery and coverage have been affected due to continuous disruption over the last 2 years. This leaves children at a disadvantage compared with previous cohorts. This information should be used to put into context any patterns of results for this year. Any comparisons to national data will also need to take into account considerable variability in the impact of Covid across the country. Ofsted results show that schools are maintaining a good quality of education for pupils with reports reflecting good inclusion and support across the curriculum for SEND pupils.

49. **Updates for areas with longer term challenges as at Quarter 4 2022/23**

Action	Indicator Description	Summary of update
2.14	Reduce the number of people who, having been assessed, are not receiving services to meet their care needs.	<p>In line with national and regional trends, there continues to be unprecedented pressure on social care services with increased need and staff shortages significantly exacerbated by the ongoing Covid pressures, Winter Pressures across the health system and the Cost of Living Crisis.</p> <p>Though winter pressures and the demand to support hospital discharge has increased over the last quarter the numbers of people waiting for packages has remained at Q2 levels with 420 people waiting for services at the end of Q3 22/23 compared to 403 at the end of Q2 2022/23. ASC have implemented a system to risk assess and monitor unmet need in the community and non-community setting to ensure that support is in place ensuring people's safety. This is monitored and reported with Assistant Director oversight. However, there continues to be unprecedented pressure on the availability of Social Care services, therefore the Promoting Independence Programme for 2022/23 includes workstreams and improvement actions for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resilient Communities and Managing Demand • Developing a workforce for the future • Market development, sustainability & new models of care • Making best use of Technology • Performance and Quality to support developing a strong evidence based for CQC inspections. All workstreams are led by Assistant Directors and overseen by the Executive Director of People. ASC are continuing to work jointly with health partners to identify opportunities to support with hospital discharge and provide capacity within community services and reablement.
2.6	Bring numbers of Children Looked After and those supported with a child protection plan (1,343 children) to be more in line with statistical neighbours (953 children).	<p>The picture over this financial year has been an improving one. There has been a fall from 1,277 in Q1 to 1,255 in November. However since November last year (75.8 per 10,000 aged 0-18), there has been an increase in the rate of Looked After Children in Cumbria when compared to November this year (83.4 per 10,000). This figure remains above the national (65 per 10,000) and statistical neighbour (61 per 10,000) rates (both from the year 2018-19) and we know demand has increased in most Local Authorities due to Covid 19. Additional analysis highlights that the national rates obscure significant variation across the country, and Cumbria is sited within a regional context where northern areas have much higher rates than in the south of the country. The North West has 97 CLA per 10,000, North East have 110 CLA per 10,000, which compares to all regions in the south which have rates below 60.</p> <p>The number on a child protection plan has also increased over the last financial year (49.6 per 10,000 aged 0-18 in November 2021 and 52.5 in November this year) and is above the statistical neighbour rate of 42.1 per 10,000 aged 0-18. Rates have fluctuated over the year in the districts but, over the last 6 months, have increased by varying degrees in all 3 districts. Any decreases over the last year have occurred as a result of teams working proactively on our child protection planning and further embedding our practice framework (Signs of Safety). We believe that the impact of Covid-19 has influenced recent increase in CP numbers.</p>

Action	Indicator Description	Summary of update
2.2	Reduce prevalence of overweight and obesity in reception years to 22% by 2022/23 and progress to reduce the proportion of overweight and obese children in Year 6 to the lowest district rate in Cumbria (29%).	<p>2021/22 data shows a significant decrease in childhood obesity: Reception age down from 30.3% to 26.2%; and Year 6 down from 40.2% to 36.8%. This is a reversal of the increase seen in 2020/21, reflecting the national trend. Obesity levels are back to where they were pre-pandemic for Reception age children but still higher than they were for children in Year 6. Any reduction is positive, but the pandemic has had an impact on obesity levels and therefore caution should be used when trying to track trends and measure impact. We will need to track the data for another couple of years to see if there has been any real impact. We are optimistic that the programmes and initiatives in place will make a difference, and we will need to track the data for another 2 to 3 years to identify if there has been any real impact.</p> <p>To support families, National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) screeners will call parents/carers direct where their child is severely obese to signpost them to local support which includes the Healthy Habits 4 Life programme. These conversations are sometimes challenging, as parents often do not recognise that their child is overweight. This has been demonstrated with the School Readiness Questionnaire where 97.6% of parent/carers had no concerns with their child's weight despite national data. Challenges remain to ensure that there is sufficient local support available; Cumbria does not currently have any specialist (Tier 3) weight management services for children beyond the offer of 2 sessions with a dietician.</p>

