

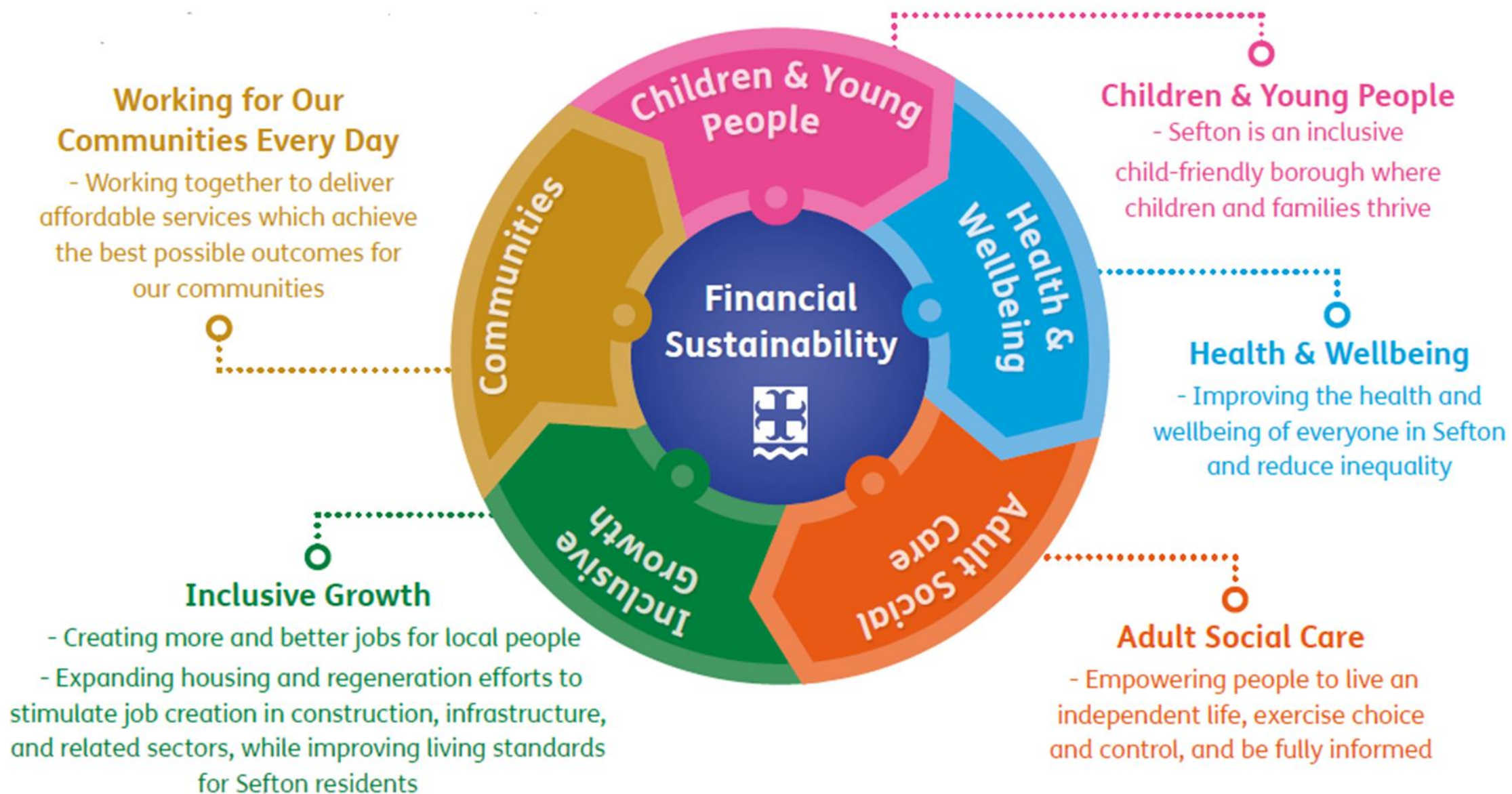
Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council

Corporate Performance

November 2024



Our Council Priorities

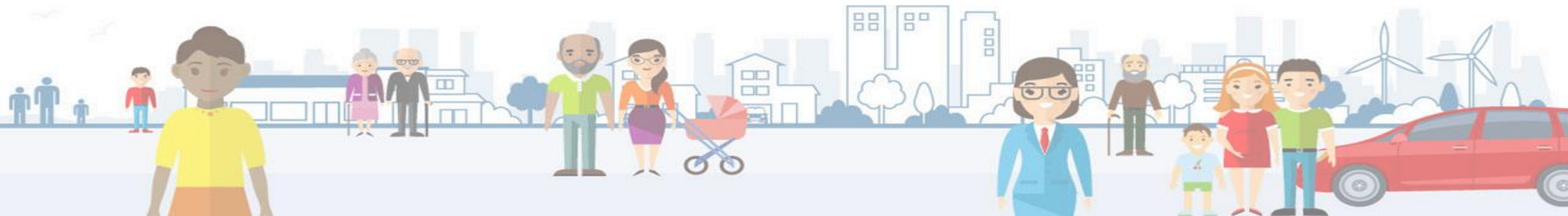


Our priority actions

- Deliver the improvement priorities set out in our vision for children's social care.
- Develop an effective workforce strategy to help recruitment and retention with a focus on 'growing our own', opportunities and continuous professional development.
- Improve delivery of SEND services for children and young people to give people the best opportunity to fulfil their potential and improve the financial stability of the Council.
- Help young people access appropriate education provision that is local.
- Achieve educational excellence for all.
- Be an excellent corporate parent.
- Be a service that reflects the views and needs of children and families of Sefton.

Measuring our success

- More and more children living safely within their family network.
- The children in our care achieving their ambitions through education, employment or training.
- More families accessing the support they need through early intervention such as our family hubs.
- More children accessing the right type of education support, particularly those with Education Health and Care Plans.
- Positive external scrutiny, towards a good OFSTED rating.
- More of Sefton children attending Sefton schools and making progress.
- The number of young people in employment, education or training.
- More children in care living with our foster carers.
- A stable and permanent frontline workforce.



FAST and CHAT services have now been in operation since May 2024. Early Help Assessments are now required to be completed within 25 working days. The most recent period shows that 131 Early Help Assessments were completed. Of the 131; 46 (35.1%) were completed within 25 working days. 85 (64.9%) were completed above 25 days. 276 families closed to Early Help services in the most recent period. Of the 276 families, 105 (38.0%) achieved positive outcomes. 36 families (13.0%) were stepped up to CSC following screening.

Social worker staff turnover rates by headcount, seeing it lowest figure in the period at 6.2% in the latest quarter. Despite this, the proportion of children in care with a single permanent social worker has decreased to 29% in the latest quarter. This may be due to case reallocations because of changes in organisational structure.

Sefton's re-referrals figure has increased to 28% in the latest quarter, 7% from target. This spike in re-referrals follows a similar trend to last year and coincides with the new school term starting. The latest position for Sefton for assessments in time is 78%, 11% from target which could be due to increase in referrals to social care in the quarter.

The proportion of care experienced opened at the end of the quarter not in education or employment has decreased from 53% to 47%. There has been a push to review NEET numbers at weekly panels with partner agencies.

The Attendance Matters Strategy has now been implemented and is fully operational. Academic year 23/24 saw positive and steady decreases in all three areas of school attendance. When comparing academic years 22/23 and 23/24 (i.e. 'Recent -3' and 'Most Recent'), there have also been positive decreases.



ID	Metric	Period Type	Good Is	Recent -3	Recent -2	Recent -1	Most Recent	Change from Previous	Target	Distance from Target
C01	Early Help Assessments completed (Nos)	Quarter	High	38.0	47.0	92.0	131.0	▲ (42.4%)		N/A
C02	Proportion of Early Help Assessments completed with positive outcomes achieved (%)	Quarter	High	52.4	41.1	49.1	38.0	▼ (22.6%)		N/A
C03	Social Worker Staff Turnover Rate, Children's Social Care (%)	Quarter	Low	19.8	14.5	9.8	6.2	▼ (36.7%)		N/A
C04	Proportion of Agency Workers, Children's Social Care (%)	Quarter	Low	30.0	25.0	29.0	28.0	▼ (3.4%)		N/A
C05	Social Worker average caseload (Nos)	Quarter	Low	11.4	12.0	13.3	14.5	▲ (9.0%)		N/A
C06	Proportion of Cared for Children in Stable Placements (%)	Quarter	High	64.0	63.0	65.0	63.0	▼ (3.1%)		N/A
C07	Proportion of Cared for Children with Permanent Social Workers (%)	Quarter	High	35.0	33.0	31.0	29.0	▼ (6.5%)		N/A
C08	Proportion of Cared for Children with Visits up to date (%)	Quarter	High	85.0	83.0	83.0	88.0	▲ (6.0%)	90	2.0 (2.2%)
C09	Proportion of Cared for Children Placed with Foster Carers (%)	Quarter	High	64.0	66.0	66.0	66.0	↔		N/A
C10	Proportion of Cared for Children Placed with Parents (%)	Quarter	High	15.0	13.0	11.0	9.0	▼ (18.2%)		N/A
C11	Referrals to Children's Social Care that were within 12 months of a previous referral (%)	Quarter	Low	21.0	22.0	25.0	28.0	▲ (12.0%)	21	7.0 (33.3%)
C12	Proportion of Assessments completed within 45 days (%)	Quarter	High	85.0	92.0	84.0	78.0	▼ (7.1%)	89	11.0 (12.4%)
C13	Total number of in-house/LA Registered foster carers (Nos)	Quarter	High	287.0	267.0	252.0	245.0	▼ (2.8%)		N/A
C14	Proportion of care leavers aged 19-21 who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) (%)	Quarter	Low	49.0	51.0	53.0	47.0	▼ (11.3%)		N/A
C15	Children's Social Care Ofsted Rating (Val)	Year	High	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	↔	3	2.0 (66.7%)
C16	Proportion of all Children Persistently Absent (%)	School Term	Low	24.9	24.8	24.7	21.9	▼ (11.3%)		N/A
C17	Proportion of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Children Persistently Absent (%)	School Term	Low	32.4	30.6	30.5	28.4	▼ (6.9%)		N/A
C18	Percentage of Cared for Children Persistently Absent (%)	School Term	Low	28.7	28.1	28.0	27.6	▼ (1.4%)		N/A
C19	Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) - Proportion Achieving Good Level of Development (%)	Year	High	60.8	60.8	63.8	62.7	▼ (1.7%)		N/A
C20	Proportion of children achieving expected standard+ (EXS+) combined Reading, Writing, Maths (RWM) by end of KS2 (%)	Year	High	63.4	58.5	58.5	57.1	▼ (2.4%)		N/A
C21	Progress 8 for KS4 pupils (Val)	Year	High		-0.4	-0.3	-0.5	▼ (41.2%)		N/A
C22	Attainment 8 for KS4 pupils (Val)	Year	High	49.4	45.7	42.0	42.8	▲ (1.9%)		N/A
C23	Proportion of Sefton Children Educated in a School Rated Good or Outstanding (%)	Year	High			87.3	92.2	▲ (5.6%)		N/A
C24	Proportion of children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) issued within a 20-week statutory timeframe (%)	Year	High	66.9	61.0	19.4	42.7	▲ (120.1%)		N/A

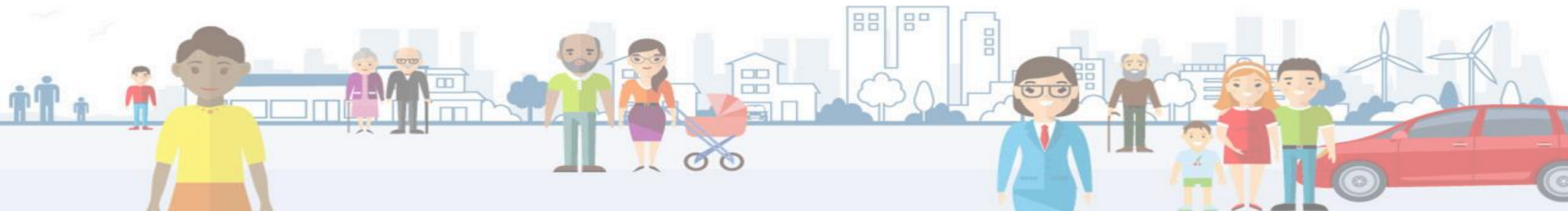


Our priority actions

- Develop plans for more accommodation that meets the needs of our population e.g. extra care.
- Created policies to support our commitment to creating more extra care accommodation spaces.
- Preparing for our Care Quality Commission assessment.
- Have more people supported at home and in the community accessing early intervention support with less people needing to access long term residential care.
- Ensure sufficient provision of high-quality care across Sefton.
- Work in partnership to improve the support services available for people with complex lives.
- Continue to develop a sustainable and highly skilled adult social care workforce.
- Increase opportunities for local people with lived experience of care and support to influence our approach to service improvement.
- Work with the Care Quality Commission to assess our quality of care and identify areas for improvement.

Measuring our success

- Proportion of individuals supported long term in the community.
- Proportion of suitable individuals accessing reablement services.
- Proportion of individuals placed with good or outstanding providers.
- Proportion of individuals who believe the service is of a high quality.
- Partnership working to improve the support services available for individuals with complex lives.
- Development of an effective workforce strategy.
- Establishment of learning and development programme with focus on leadership and professional practice.
- Quality assurance framework refreshed and reporting on percentage of case file audits completed.
- Proportion of individuals who responded about their quality of service.
- Proportion of service developments co-produced.
- Continuing to improve adult social care towards a good/outstanding CQC rating.



ASC continues to receive approximately 2,000 contacts per month and this quarter saw an increase in the number which were resolved at the point of contact with advice and information. This aligns to the intention to adopt a more preventative approach and forms part of the wider work being undertaken to redesign the ASC “front door”, improve how people access help and support when needed (“do more of today's work today”), provide earlier access to Occupational Therapy and Technology Enabled Care.

Adult Social Care’s transformation programme “Better at Home” continues to focus on helping more people remain independent for as long as possible and the percentage of people remaining at home with support after being discharged from hospital has increased again this quarter.

Reablement services provide short-term home-based support to people after a period in hospital or illness at home. Additional reablement capacity is expected to be in place during Q3 with the number of direct care hours increasing. This will enable more people to be supported and to stay at home.

Adult Social Care has seen a slight increase in the numbers of people requiring residential support which has corresponded with a very slight decrease in the numbers of people being supported in the community during this period. The increase in people requiring residential and nursing care is due to several people who were previously self-funding now requiring local authority support (as their savings have fallen below the capital threshold) and several individuals with very high level of needs who could no longer be safely supported at home.

The numbers of people receiving support from care providers who have been rated as good or outstanding by the Care Quality Commission, has continued to improve again this quarter. This is due to Adult Social Care facilitating alternative support packages wherever required. We continue to work proactively with providers who have received a poor CQC rating to improve the quality of the services.

The turnover of social work staff has reduced this quarter; however, recruitment can remain a challenge which reflects the national position for social work staff. Recruitment ,retention and succession planning remains a focus for the service. There is continued use of agency staff to cover vacancies and additional capacity, however we are seeking to reduce this and are currently undertaking a review of capacity and demand across all teams.

The last quarter saw an increase in the number of case file audits being completed. This ensures a continued focus on practice standards and continued quality improvement in the service. This is linked to our continued preparation for CQC.



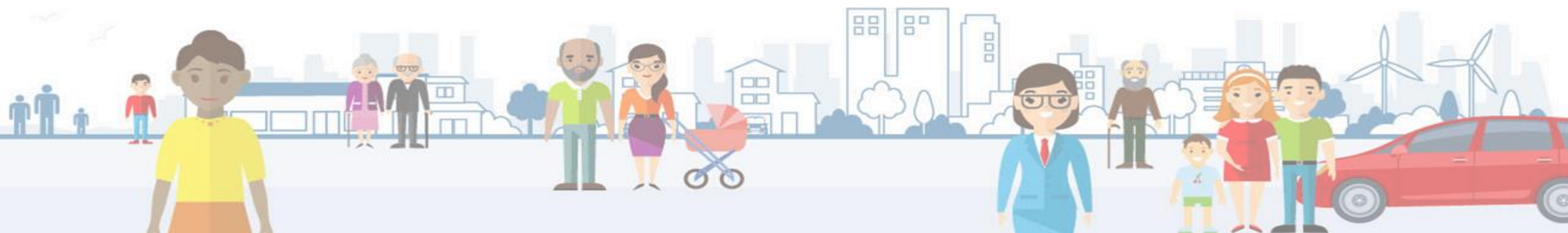
ID	Metric	Period Type	Good Is	Recent -3	Recent -2	Recent -1	Most Recent	Change from Previous	Target	Distance from Target
A01	Proportion of individuals supported long term in the community (%)	Quarter	High	68.1	68.0	68.3	67.9	▼ (0.6%)	74	6.1 (8.2%)
A03	Proportion of older people (65 and over) who were still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital (%)	Quarter	High	86.3	88.1	88.7	89.8	▲ (1.2%)	82	Met / Exceeded
A04	Proportion of individuals placed with good or outstanding community providers (%)	Quarter	High	95.3	87.6	82.1	86.1	▲ (4.9%)	90	3.9 (4.3%)
A05	Proportion of individuals who believe the service is of a high quality (%)	Quarter	High	68.4	81.0	82.4	91.3	▲ (10.8%)	70	Met / Exceeded
A06	Proportion of individuals placed in Good or Outstanding Care Homes (%)	Quarter	High	77.2	77.5	76.7	76.0	▼ (0.9%)	75	Met / Exceeded
A07	Proportion of individuals asked about their experience (%)	Quarter	High	5.6	4.6	4.6	5.7	▲ (23.9%)	8	2.3 (28.8%)
A08	Proportion of individuals whose 'Making Safeguarding Personal' outcomes were met (%)	Quarter	High	96.8	96.3	95.9	97.8	▲ (2.0%)	95	Met / Exceeded
A10	Social Worker staff turnover rate, Adult Social Care (%)	Quarter	Low	1.0	1.0	2.9	2.4	▼ (17.2%)	N/A	
A11	Proportion of Agency Workers, Adult Social Care (%)	Quarter	Low	14.6	14.5	16.0	15.9	▼ (0.6%)	N/A	
A12	Social Worker average caseload (Nos)	Quarter		21.0	22.0	23.0	24.0	▲ (4.3%)	N/A	
A14	Number of Casework Audits completed (Nos)	Quarter	High	16.0	13.0	15.0	48.0	▲ (220.0%)	25	Met / Exceeded
A16	Proportion of contacts resolved through information, advice, or signposting (%)	Quarter	High	13.1	12.4	14.6	18.5	▲ (26.7%)	20	1.5 (7.5%)

Our priority actions

- Redevelop and improve the NHS Health Check offer.
- Develop and renew essential public health programmes, e.g. sexual health.
- Work with partners to reduce harm from drugs and alcohol.
- Enable and facilitate the system to implement the Child Poverty Strategy.
- Collaborate with system partners to develop an oral health strategy for Sefton
- Continue to prepare and respond to emerging threats to health.
- Meet our statutory commitments, which in the next 18 months will include the completion of the pharmacy needs assessment.

Measuring our success

- Public Health Outcomes Framework.
- Office Health Inequalities and Disparities.
- UK Health Security Agency.
- National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Monitoring System.
- NHS England.
- Commissioned qualitative insight.
- Achievement of key programme milestones.



H04- Sefton's increase in Y6 obesity reflects national trends and local prevalence does not differ significantly to England. Nevertheless, the high proportion of children already living with obesity at the end of primary school and the increasing risks this poses for health into adulthood, is a concern.

H06 –Sefton's point prevalence of adult smokers appears to have increased. Confidence Intervals show that the most recent estimate is not significantly different to previous estimates.

H07 – although the national target has not been achieved, the rate remains in line with the national average and is improving at a slightly faster rate. This represents a major gain for health and health equity at the start of life and reflects the ongoing success of partnership work spear-headed in Sefton.

H08/H09 - OHID will soon be switching to a new national progress measure of 'showing substantial progress'. Sefton Combating Drug Partnership monitor this new measure and Sefton's performance is in line with the national average for Opiate and/or Crack Use and above national averages for opiate only and non-opiate only users.

H11-H14 – Increases in these indicators mirrors national trends. Sefton's wellbeing performance is not significantly different to England for all 4 indicators.



ID	Metric	Period Type	Good Is	Recent -3	Recent -2	Recent -1	Most Recent	Change from Previous	Target	Distance from Target
H01	Healthy Life Expectancy at birth (male) (Years)	Three year (updated annually)	High	62.4	64.0	63.7	63.6	▼ (0.2%)		N/A
H02	Healthy Life Expectancy at birth (female) (Years)	Three year (updated annually)	High	61.5	62.4	64.2	63.8	▼ (0.6%)		N/A
H03	Proportion of Reception age children classified as obese (%)	Academic Year	Low	11.0	10.0	11.3	10.3	▼ (8.8%)		N/A
H04	Proportion of Year 6 age children classified as obese (%)	Academic Year	Low	21.4	22.7	23.3	23.9	▲ (2.6%)		N/A
H05	Proportion of Adults aged 18 and above classified as overweight (%)	Year	Low	66.3	71.5	71.2	69.2	▼ (2.8%)		N/A
H06	Proportion of Adults aged 18 and above who are smokers (%)	Calendar Year	Low	7.7	10.0	7.9	9.7	▲ (22.8%)		N/A
H07	Proportion of maternities where the mother was a smoker at time of delivery (%)	Rolling 12 months	Low	7.6	7.8	7.1	6.7	▼ (5.4%)	6	0.7 (11.7%)
H08	Proportion of opiate users that left treatment successfully and did not represent within 6 months (%)	Rolling 12 months	High	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.1	▼ (0.2%)		N/A
H09	Proportion of non-opiate users that left treatment successfully and did not represent within 6 months (%)	Rolling 12 months	High	29.8	29.7	29.7	29.5	▼ (0.6%)		N/A
H10	Proportion of children aged under 16 living in relative low income families (%)	Financial Year	Low	17.2	16.5	18.2	21.0	▲ (15.4%)		N/A
H11	Proportion of respondents whose self reported well-being satisfaction score was 'low' (%)	Financial Year	Low	5.8	7.2	6.2	7.7	▲ (24.2%)		N/A
H12	Proportion of respondents whose self reported well-being worthwhile score was 'low' (%)	Financial Year	Low	3.6	5.6	4.8	5.0	▲ (4.2%)		N/A
H13	Proportion of respondents whose self reported well-being happiness score was 'low' (%)	Financial Year	Low	7.6	10.4	9.5	10.3	▲ (8.4%)		N/A
H14	Proportion of respondents whose self reported well-being anxiety score was 'high' (%)	Financial Year	Low	21.4	25.8	22.6	24.3	▲ (7.5%)		N/A
H15	Proportion of eligible population offered a NHS Health Check (%)	Quarter	High	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	▼ (25.0%)		N/A
H16	Proportion of eligible population receiving a NHS Health Check (%)	Quarter	High	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	↔		N/A
H17	Hospital Admissions due to alcohol-specific conditions (rate per 100,000 population)	Financial Year	Low	1155.0	960.0	956.0	839.0	▼ (12.2%)		N/A

Note: the National Child Measurement Programme (Obesity) was impacted by the Covid-19 Pandemic in 2020/21 and figures for these periods should be used with caution

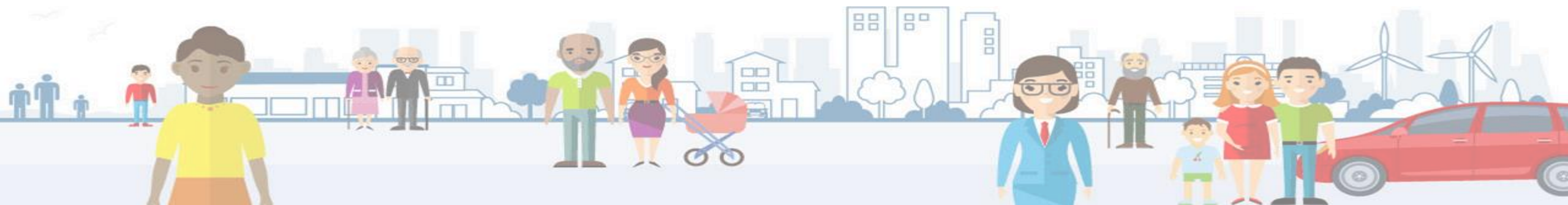


Our priority actions

- Deliver the organisational cultural change to ensure our workforce is equipped with the skills needed for the future – this is to be an enabler for residents and help the community help themselves.
- Award the contract for our new Integrated Domestic Abuse Service.
- Deliver our agreed strategies on Community Safety, Culture, Digital, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping.
- Continue to support our communities with partners through the cost-of-living crisis.
- Work with our partners to deliver clean and safe neighbourhoods for everyone getting on top of the weed control, fly-tipping and littering.
- Prepare for changes to how we collect people's waste and increase recycling rates.
- Meeting the housing needs of all our residents including delivering the first new Council Housing in the borough in a generation.
- Ensure that those leaving care move into safe high-quality housing of their own.
- Recommission our award-winning Sefton Homeless Families Project.
- Everyone in Sefton can take part in a rich and varied cultural life and we enable people to be more active.
- Sefton Council is committed to reducing carbon emissions.

Measuring our success

- Number of volunteers / volunteer hours.
- Number of incidents of fly-tipping removed and prosecutions.
- Number of bulky household waste collections booked.
- Number of schemes delivered to support Safer Routes to School programme.
- Total recorded crime excluding fraud (crime rate per 1,000 for headline offences).
- Number of people rough sleeping.
- Percentage of Homelessness Preventions.
- Number of homeless households in temporary accommodation.
- Uptake of Leisure Services and Library Services.
- Recycling rates - percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting.
- Deliver grassroots neighbourhood based cultural projects and activity.
- Grow the range and diversity of the active Sefton initiatives.



Residents (both children and adults) accessing Active Sefton services often dip in the months of July, August and September as people take holidays and their usual routine is disrupted. We will continue to monitor trends to identify any future actions that can be taken to increase participation over those months.

The increase in reporting of fly tipping is expected although it is fair to say the teams are struggling with the demand. The #WFT programme has now ended, and the forthcoming evaluation will help us target actions that will have most impact. There has been a refocus of the street cleansing and rear alleyway cleansing teams to ensure there is a performance management approach and transparency around areas covered and work completed. A waste minimisation officer has been recruited and will assist with the behaviour change work that is required to improve the environment for our communities. Work is also ongoing with our partners (particularly in the housing sector) to ensure a joined-up approach to behaviour change.

It is encouraging to see an increase in bulky waste collections – more data analysis is needed to determine if a more targeted approach in specific areas to advertise the service is needed.

Further analysis of the crime data indicates that acquisitive crime is rising with offences of robbery, burglary (home), vehicle crimes and shoplifting are all slightly higher than the same period last year. There is a force-wide plan in place to tackle this issue and police are working with partners to have the best impact here. Overall serious violence is consistent with last year, whilst Domestic Abuse and rape offences have decreased, and outcomes have improved. The tragic events in Southport will no doubt have an impact on recorded incidents; but the Council, partners, and wider community groups are working hard together to deliver the recovery plan and improve community cohesion.

Temporary housing is being used more frequently and for longer periods of time whilst homelessness prevention has fallen. A procurement exercise is underway for temporary accommodation and officers are considering ways to change the way services are delivered to try to prevent homelessness occurring.



ID	Metric	Period Type	Good Is	Recent -3	Recent -2	Recent -1	Most Recent	Change from Previous	Target	Distance from Target
W02	Adults accessing targeted Active Sefton Services (Nos)	Quarter	High	5366.0	6581.0	7174.0	6692.0	▼ (6.7%)		N/A
W03	Children and Young People accessing targeted Active Sefton Services (Nos)	Quarter	High	1188.0	2969.0	1911.0	1179.0	▼ (38.3%)		N/A
W04	Fly-tipping episodes (Nos)	Quarter	Low	951.0	868.0	910.0	1127.0	▲ (23.8%)		N/A
W05	Bulky household waste collections booked (Nos)	Quarter	High	2291.0	2256.0	2450.0	2573.0	▲ (5.0%)		N/A
W06	Proportion of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting (%)	Quarter	High	36.9	31.6	26.8	38.2	▲ (42.5%)		N/A
W07	Total recorded crime excluding fraud (crime rate per 1,000 for headline offences).	Quarter	Low	20.6	18.4	17.8	20.2	▲ (13.5%)		N/A
W08	Number of people rough sleeping (Nos)	Year	Low	3.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	▲ (inf%)	0	N/A
W09	Proportion of Homelessness Preventions (%)	Quarter	High	15.0	18.0	22.0	17.0	▼ (22.7%)		N/A
W10	Number of households in Temporary Accommodation (Nos)	Quarter	Low		53.0	103.0	177.0	▲ (71.8%)		N/A
W11	Median number of days in temporary accommodation at mid-year (Oct)	Year	Low	53.0	52.0	63.0	126.0	▲ (100.0%)		N/A
W13	Proportion of council-wide corporate complaints responded to within agreed timescale (%)	Quarter	High	69.0	70.0	79.0	78.0	▼ (1.3%)		N/A
W14	Proportion of minor planning applications decided within time or with an agreed extension of time (%)	Quarter	High	94.0	100.0	100.0	92.0	▼ (8.0%)	65	Met / Exceeded
W15	Proportion of major planning applications decided within time or with an agreed extension of time (%)	Quarter	High	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	↔	60	Met / Exceeded
W17	Scope 1 and 2 emissions from direct Council operations (consumption of fossil fuels including heating, electricity consumption and fleet fuel) (T Co2)	Year	Low			7362.0	4700.0	▼ (36.2%)	4361	339.0 (7.8%)
W18	Proportion of planning decisions made on major applications by appeal (%)	Quarter	Low	1.9	1.9	0.0	2.0	▲ (inf%)	10	Met / Exceeded
W19	Proportion of Planning decisions made on minor applications by appeal (%)	Quarter	Low	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	▲ (15.6%)	10	Met / Exceeded

Note: The scope (1 to 3) of emissions reported within the annual climate emergency report (Council carbon footprint) varies from the corporate performance scope (1 to 2) due to timeliness of reporting.

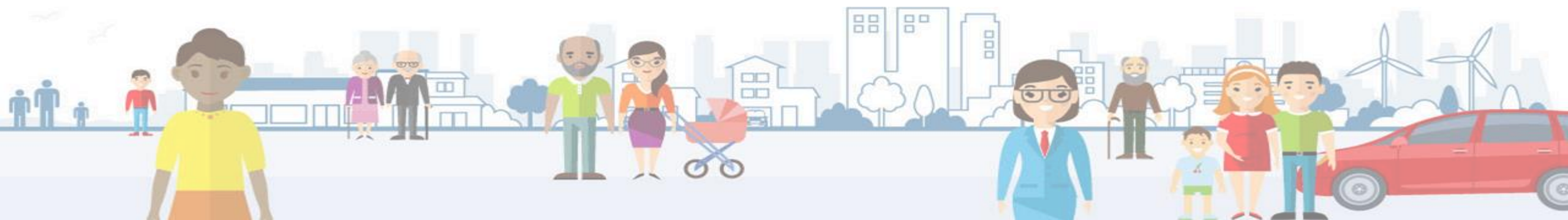


Our priority actions

- ❑ Inclusive growth – phase 1 of the Strand repurposing; continued delivery of Southport Town Deal projects, and continued pursuit of funding solution for Southport Pier.
- ❑ Access to Employment – continue quality of services such as Sefton@Work, maximise output from social value linked to major projects and opportunities for young people linked to Salt and Tar.
- ❑ Visiting Sefton – continue to develop our events programme with new venues such as Salt and Tar and align with the regional visitor proposition where appropriate.
- ❑ Asset Maximisation – momentum with Council asset review; continued engagement with external partners.
- ❑ Progression of Liverpool City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement programme.
- ❑ Delivery of our Council Housing Programme and wider housing ambitions, with emphasis on Extra Care and Supported Living.
- ❑ Strategic transport – programme development and delivery; partnership working with the Combined Authority to maximise opportunities re. rail connectivity, bus reform, green bus corridor, etc.

Measuring our success

- ❑ Employment, education and training figures and early intervention with 16-17 year-olds.
- ❑ Number of workless residents accessing employment support.
- ❑ Number of residents accessing community learning programmes.
- ❑ Capital programme delivery – cost, time, quality, plus social and environmental outcomes.
- ❑ Visitor numbers.
- ❑ Business start-ups and survival rates (1 year, 4 years).
- ❑ Vacancy rates in town centres and neighbourhoods.
- ❑ Engagement plans with developers and investors to produce social value benefits including jobs and training.
- ❑ Affordable homes completed (rented and low-cost home ownership).



The Property and Building Services Department helps to support a compliant, warm & watertight, cost effective and income generating property portfolio as far as reasonably practicable and budget allowing.

Over the last two periods Property and Building Services have successfully completed 202 adaptations which enable people to stay in their own homes via DFGs, supported Education with their plans by developing and delivering 23 capital projects across 15 sites, along with 5 capital projects supporting SEND provisions to schools alongside planning, developing and delivering 5 essential maintenance schemes across Corporate Assets.

To date, Property and Building Services have overseen the reduction of corporate Co2 emissions (Scope 1 and 2) by 36%(T Co2).

This work is designed to enable Sefton Council to utilize its assets and services to deliver better, more efficient outcomes and services to staff, users and the wider community.

Significant work continues, particularly led by Invest Sefton, in relation to business support and recovery planning following the unimaginable incident of 29th July 2024. This includes administration and delivery of the Southport Business Recovery Fund for directly-affected businesses, and property-related support where applicable. Recovery planning includes continued focus on the borough's events programme, which is aimed at generation of visitor numbers and footfall in our town centres. This has included events such as Salt and Tar in Bootle, which included Tom Jones and Status Quo and brought more than 10,000 people into Bootle Town Centre, and the British Musical Fireworks Championships held in Southport.

The Council's growth and strategic investment programme continues to progress at pace. The regeneration programme includes (but is not limited to) delivery of the Southport Town Deal projects, notably the new Marine Lake Events Centre and the Enterprise Arcade, and of the repurposing of the Strand in Bootle town centre.

This and wider property related activity support the delivery of the Corporate Plan across areas and importantly provide a key role in informing and enabling place shaping and master planning.



ID	Metric	Period Type	Good Is	Recent -3	Recent -2	Recent -1	Most Recent	Change from Previous	Target	Distance from Target
G01	Businesses contacting InvestSefton for Information & Advice (Nos)	Quarter	High	137.0	143.0	130.0	116.0	▼ (10.8%)	100	Met / Exceeded
G02	Businesses attending InvestSefton Events (Nos)	Quarter	High	35.0	143.0	110.0	164.0	▲ (49.1%)	100	Met / Exceeded
G03	Proportion of registered learners not working (%)	Quarter	Low	59.5	59.4	57.2	67.2	▲ (17.5%)	50	17.2 (34.4%)
G04	Proportion of vulnerable people referred receiving targeted support (%)	Quarter	High	82.6	75.9	75.0	81.5	▲ (8.7%)	72	Met / Exceeded
G05	Regeneration projects in delivery or completed (Nos)	Quarter	High	18.0	18.0	17.0	16.0	▼ (5.9%)		N/A
G06	Social Housing completions (Nos per annum)	Year	High	226.0	247.0	197.0	181.0	▼ (8.1%)	150	Met / Exceeded
G07	Net additional dwellings per year (Nos)	Year	High	748.0	766.0	745.0	748.0	▲ (0.4%)	578	Met / Exceeded
G08	Floorspace created for employment (B1,2,8) (square metres)	Year	High	5271.0	2251.0	26476.0	5622.0	▼ (78.8%)		N/A
G09	Day and staying Visitors (000s)	Year	High				7931.0	▲ (inf%)	7829	Met / Exceeded
G10	Visitor economy total employment (Nos)	Year	High				6678.0	▲ (inf%)	6233	Met / Exceeded
G11	Visitor economy economic impact (£m)	Year	High				698.0	▲ (inf%)	608	Met / Exceeded
G12	Disabled Facilities Grants: Actual expenditure against capital received (£000s)	Quarter	High	1314.2	1977.3	2996.2	1550.7	▼ (48.2%)	875	Met / Exceeded
G13	Education Capital Maintenance: Actual expenditure against capital received (£000s)	Quarter	High	108.9	218.9	351.6	75.1	▼ (78.6%)	99	24.2 (24.4%)
G14	Corporate Essential Maintenance: Actual expenditure against capital received (£000s)	Quarter	High	299.3	1005.4	1254.3	122.2	▼ (90.3%)	756	633.8 (83.8%)
G15	Proportion of Council-owned shop units that are empty (%)	Quarter	Low		30.0	32.0	29.0	▼ (9.4%)		N/A

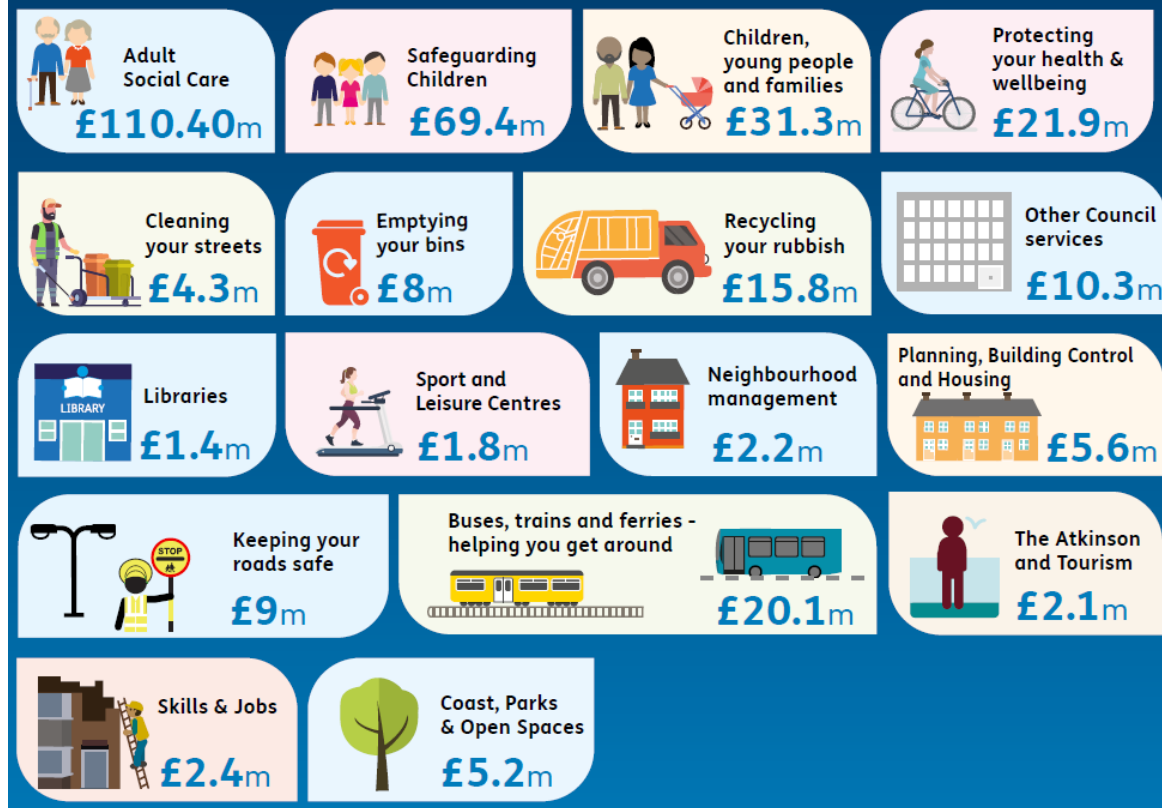
Financial sustainability has always been at the heart of Council decision making. This is driven by the production of an annual medium term financial plan that provides the strategy, basis for annual budget setting and how the Council will spend its financial resources in support of the delivery of the Council’s objectives.

This approach will continue and will support the delivery of this corporate plan. Within this plan that the Council has developed a transformation programme which covers 6 key areas: Adult Social Care, Childrens Social Care, SEND, Home to School transport, Housing and Operational in-House services. This programme will be the core delivery vehicle for the medium-term financial plan.

What this means in practice is that Council investment, reform and savings will come from these areas and will be detailed in annual budget setting. This reflects that due to demand and cost increases the Council now spends more than 70 pence in the pound on demand led services including adult and children’s services.

The Council will also continue to deliver its ambitious growth programme with substantial investment in a range of projects across the borough including the regeneration scheme at the Strand and the Town Deal investment in Southport.

Here’s what we expect to spend in a typical year



The two main collectable income sources for the Council are Council Tax and Business Rates.

In respect of Council Tax, at the end of quarter 2, 53.6% of the income due in the year had been collected. This is therefore on target to achieve the required and estimated collection rate for the full year (97.25%). This % will increase month by month.

Similarly for Business Rates, at the end of quarter 2, 57.4% of income due had been collected and again this is therefore on target to reach the estimated budget level by year end (98%). Both are critical to the financial sustainability of the Council and will be used to inform budget setting for 25/26. The Council is consistently upper quartile for both Council Tax and Business Rates collection, regionally and nationally and will be again this year.

In respect of unrecovered debt for both Council Tax and Business Rates, the levels will come down as collection continues through the year, as can be seen from the movement between the previous quarter and this one, therefore there is a direct link to the collection rate metrics. The Council has clear policies and processes in respect of debt recovery for both sources of income with this being reported to Audit and Governance Committee on a regular basis.

Debt outstanding as a % of gross debt raised has been no more than 10% in each of the previous 3 quarters. As would be expected there is a lag on payment hence 15% remains outstanding for Q2 but this will reduce as debt from that period continues to be collected in the next quarter. These levels are in line with target and as with Council Tax and Business Rates the Council has clear policies and processes in place for debt recovery.



ID	Metric	Period Type	Good Is	Recent -3	Recent -2	Recent -1	Most Recent	Change from Previous	Target	Distance from Target
F01	Council tax collection rate (%)	Quarter	High	79.7	94.9	27.3	53.6	▲ (96.3%)	54	Met / Exceeded
F02	Business Rates collection rate (%)	Quarter	High	77.6	98.8	31.9	57.4	▲ (79.9%)	56	Met / Exceeded
F03	Debt collected as a percentage of gross debt raised in quarter (%)	Quarter	Low	90.0	92.0	93.0	85.0	▼ (8.6%)		N/A
F04	Value of un-recovered debt - Council Tax (£000s)	Quarter	Low	77244.0	255568.0	196327.0	140133.0	▼ (28.6%)		N/A
F05	Value of un-recovered debt - Business Rates (£000s)	Quarter	Low	23980.0	74143.0	54647.0	36756.0	▼ (32.7%)		N/A

Filters