



GUIDE TO COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

May 2026

Guide to Council Annual Report

Council Annual Report

We have a statutory duty to report annually to the public on our performance. The Council Annual Report (CAR) provides an overview of our performance, helping our communities understand how we are delivering services on their behalf.

The CAR contains progress against our Corporate Outcome Indicators (COIs). The COI's show our direction of travel at a high-level over the longer term. They are complemented by the annual measures and targets set out in our Business Plan and are aligned with our corporate plan to track progress, inform decision-making and demonstrate accountability. Helping us reflect, learn, and improve.

The CAR also showcases the outstanding contributions of staff, innovative practices, and collaborative efforts with partners and communities—demonstrating our ongoing commitment to improvement and accountability.

Content for the report is captured using a single data collection exercise supported by a standard template, clear guidance and an agreed timeline to improve consistency and reduce the need for multiple requests for the same information. This exercise includes data for the following:

- Corporate Outcomes Indicators
- Corporate Improvement Plan
- Annual Business Plan
- Other positive examples that be considered for inclusion in the CAR

Looking ahead, we recognise the importance of staying responsive to emerging technologies. Rather than adhering to a fixed reporting template, we will be flexible in how we present performance data. This approach will allow us to:

Adapt to Emerging Technologies

Adopt new tools and platforms to improve how data is visualised, analysed, and shared. Flexibility allows organisations to adopt these innovations quickly, enhancing clarity and impact.

Tailor to Stakeholder Needs

Different audiences—such as senior leaders, team members, or external partners—may require different formats or levels of detail. A flexible approach ensures the data is presented in a way that's most meaningful and accessible to each group.

Encourage Engagement

Interactive dashboards, infographics, and narrative summaries can make performance data more engaging than static reports. This helps stakeholders connect with the information and take informed action.

Enhance Transparency and Accountability

Flexible reporting can highlight areas of success and improvement more effectively, fostering a culture of openness and learning.