
**DATA QUALITY REPORT – MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS, ANALYTICAL
REVIEW AND SPOT CHECKS**

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of Report

1. To present the external audit report on Data Quality.

Information and Analysis

2. **Attached** is a copy of the report produced by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) following an assessment of the Council's management arrangements relating to data quality. The assessment was completed in accordance with the methodology and guidance issued by the Audit Commission.
3. Representatives from PwC will attend the meeting to present the report.
4. The outcome from the assessment is positive. The report states that, 'Overall the council are *performing well* for Management Arrangements over Data Quality', which is the same as achieved in 2006/07. The scoring is descriptive with four categories and *performing well* is effectively scoring 3 out of 4, with *performing strongly* being 4. The report highlights a number of strengths in the Council's approach, including the Data Quality Strategy (DQS) and associated action plan. It will be noted that no indicators were qualified or amended.
5. It also identifies a number of areas for improvement that are, in the main, being addressed through the DQS. These include appropriate data quality training for relevant staff and introducing protocols and arrangements for ensuring data quality with partners.

Recommendation

6. It is recommended that the report and assessment be noted.

Reasons

7. The recommendation is supported to provide the Audit Committee with evidence to reflect on the Council's governance arrangements.

Lorraine O'Donnell
Assistant Chief Executive

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

S17 Crime and Disorder	It is not considered that the contents of this report have any effect.
Health and Well Being	There is no specific health and well-being impact.
Sustainability	There is no specific sustainability impact.
Diversity	There is no specific diversity impact.
Wards Affected	All wards are affected equally.
Groups Affected	All groups are affected equally.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not recommend a change to the Council's budget or policy framework.
Key Decision	This is not classed as a key decision and has not been included in the forward plan.
Urgent Decision	For the purpose of the 'call-in' procedure this does not represent an urgent matter.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	There is no specific relevance to the strategy beyond improving the quality of data that is used in assessing its delivery.

David Goodchild: Extension 2015