

**DATA LABEL: OFFICIAL**



**COUNCIL EXECUTIVE**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT BENCHMARKING FRAMEWORK**

**REPORT BY HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES**

**A. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report provides the updated Local Government Benchmarking (LGBF) data for 2018/19. The LGBF compares the performance of the 32 Scottish councils in a consistent set of key performance indicators and is published each year in a national report.

**B. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Council Executive notes the council's comparative performance in the LGBF 2018/19.

**C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

I.	Council Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Focusing on customers' needs</li><li>• Being honest, open and accountable</li></ul>
II.	Policy and Legal	Compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance requirements.
III.	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None
IV.	Impact on performance and performance indicators	The council is required to publish Specified Performance Indicators in accordance with the Local Government (Scotland) Act 2003. This includes comparative performance information from the LGBF.
V.	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	The LGBF contains indicators across the main domains of council activities. Some of these indicators are included within the council's performance reporting arrangements for outcomes and priorities.
VI.	Resources (Financial, Staffing and Property)	From existing budget
VII.	Consideration at PDSP/Executive Committee required	A report on the council's comparative performance in the LGBF will be taken to the next meeting of the Performance Committee.
VIII.	Details of consultations	None

## D. TERMS OF REPORT

### D.1 Local Government Benchmarking Framework Overview

The Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) is focused on providing a consistent approach to benchmarking local authority performance, with an evolving data set reported each year to the public.

The comparative performance of the 32 Scottish local authorities is published in an annual report that identifies national trends across eight thematic categories of council activity. The report also highlights local challenges and priorities, how this varies across councils and the subsequent impact on performance.

Following the publication of the national report in February 2020, the Improvement Service issued to councils new 2018/19 data in April 2020 and this report contains the high-level analysis of the council's performance in the LGBF.

### D.2 LGBF Overview Report 2018/19

The LGBF Overview Report 2018/19 was published by the Improvement Service in February 2020. The report compares Scottish councils' performance across 87 performance indicators, an increase on the 81 performance indicators used for 2017/18. The national process concludes in around April each year, when refreshed data is issued to councils, including some measures that are not available when the national report is published.

The LGBF performance indicators remain grouped under the following eight categories:

#### People Service categories

- Children's Services
- Adult Social Care
- Housing Services
- Culture and Leisure

#### Other Services categories

- Corporate Services
- Corporate Assets
- Environmental Services
- Economic Development

The dataset in each category generally focuses on how much councils have spent on particular services, service performance and how satisfied people are with the major services provided by councils.

#### LGBF Family Groups

LGBF performance is analysed to ensure the variation and causal impact in relation to local priorities and policy choices are understood. This is facilitated by councils working as part of 'family groups' to interrogate the data. These family groups also serve as a forum for learning and knowledge share amongst relevant comparators.

Councils are allocated to a family group of authorities with similar characteristics. The council is a member of family group 3, with the general characteristics set out in table 1:

Table 1: Family Group Allocation		
Categories	Characteristic	Family
<b>People Service categories:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children</li><li>• Social Work</li><li>• Housing</li></ul>	Allocation based on deprivation / affluence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clackmannanshire</li><li>• Dumfries and Galloway</li><li>• Falkirk</li><li>• Fife</li><li>• Renfrewshire</li><li>• South Ayrshire</li></ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Lanarkshire</li> <li>• West Lothian Council</li> </ul>
Categories	Characteristic	Family
<b>Other Services categories:</b>	Allocation based on population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Angus</li> <li>• Clackmannanshire</li> <li>• Inverclyde</li> <li>• East Renfrewshire</li> <li>• Midlothian</li> <li>• Renfrewshire</li> <li>• South Lanarkshire</li> <li>• West Lothian Council</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental</li> <li>• Culture and Leisure</li> <li>• Corporate</li> <li>• Property (Corporate) Assets</li> </ul>		

### D.3 Analysis of LGBF 2018/19

The 2018/19 ranking performance of the council in the eight LGBF categories, in comparison to the 2017/18, is summarised in table 2:

<b>Table 2: Summary Position of Performance 2017/18 to 2018/19</b>				
Category	Total Number	Improvement	Decline	No change
Adult Social Care	11	6	4	1
Children's Services	*28	17	5	2
Corporate Services	8	4	4	0
Corporate Assets	2	1	1	0
Environmental Services	15	3	7	5
Housing Services	5	1	2	2
Economic Development	10	4	4	2
Culture and Leisure	8	1	6	1
<b>West Lothian Council*</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>13</b>

\*4 new indicators added in 2018/19. There is no comparative information available for these indicators.

The council's actual performance and ranking in each indicator can be viewed on the council [website](#).

#### Average Ranking 2018/19

The council's average ranking and the top ranked local authority in the eight categories of LGBF have been summarised in table 3.

<b>Table 3: Average Ranking Movement (Refresh 2018/19)</b>			
Category	WLC Ranking 2017/18	WLC Ranking 2018/19	Top Ranked Authority
Adult Social Care	9	12	East Dunbartonshire
Children's Services	5	4	East Renfrewshire
Corporate Services	5	2	Stirling
Corporate Assets	1	1	West Lothian
Environmental Services	13	19	East Lothian
Housing Services	2	2	North Ayrshire
Economic Development	1	2	Aberdeenshire
Culture and Leisure	7	12	Shetland Islands
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>West Lothian</b>

The council ranked an average of first in Scotland overall in 2018/19.

Appendix 1 contains the average ranking of the 32 local authorities in each category.

The top five ranking authorities in Scotland is set out in table 3b and is calculated based on an average of all indicators in the LGBF dataset and are as follows:

<b>Table 3b: Overall top ranking authorities in Scotland</b>		
Top Ranking Authority	Ranking 2017/18	Ranking 2018/19 Refresh
West Lothian	1	1
East Renfrewshire	2	2
East Dunbartonshire	5	3
Inverclyde	9	4
Stirling	6	5

#### Comparative Analysis

Table 4 provides a breakdown of the number of performance indicators the council has in each quartile in comparison to the position in February 2020. The council continues to have a large proportion of indicators in the top two quartiles.

<b>Table 4: Quartile Ranking Movement (Refresh 2018/19)</b>		
Quartile	2017/18 Number of Pls	2018/19 Number of Pls
Quartile 1	30	31
Quartile 2	22	27
Quartile 3	19	21
Quartile 4	6	8

## **E. CONCLUSION**

The LGBF is intended to support councils to improve performance in key activities, inform strategic planning and forms a critical part of the sector's response to requirements for public performance reporting and benchmarking.

The council continues to perform well in the LGBF dataset and continues to be ranked an average of first overall in Scotland.

## **F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES**

[LGBF 2018/19 overview report](#)

### **Appendices/Attachments: 1**

Appendix 1: LGBF Average Category Ranking 2018/19

Contact Person: [Rebecca.kelly@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Rebecca.kelly@westlothian.gov.uk) Phone 01506 281891

**Julie Whitelaw**  
**Head of Corporate Services**  
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COUNCIL WIDE		
Local Authority	2018/19	Rank
West Lothian	12.6	1
East Renfrewshire	12.9	2
East Dunbartonshire	13.2	3
Inverclyde	14.1	4
Stirling	14.2	5
Renfrewshire	14.7	6
North Ayrshire	15.0	7
South Ayrshire	15.0	7
Orkney Islands	15.1	9
Aberdeenshire	15.3	10
Perth & Kinross	15.3	11
West Dunbartonshire	15.4	12
Falkirk	15.5	13
Edinburgh City	15.6	14
Shetland Islands	15.7	15
South Lanarkshire	15.9	16
Angus	16.3	17
North Lanarkshire	16.5	18
East Ayrshire	16.6	19
Dumfries & Galloway	16.8	20
Fife	16.8	21
Moray	16.8	22
East Lothian	16.8	23
Clackmannanshire	17.3	24
Glasgow City	17.5	25
Dundee City	17.6	26
Midlothian	17.8	27
Highland	18.3	28
Aberdeen City	18.4	29
Argyll & Bute	18.7	30
Scottish Borders	19.7	31
Eilean Siar	20.6	32

CHILDREN'S SERVICES		
Local Authority	2018/19	Rank
East Renfrewshire	6.1	1
East Dunbartonshire	7.3	2
Stirling	11.6	3
West Lothian	11.8	4
Renfrewshire	11.8	5
Inverclyde	12.1	6
South Ayrshire	12.3	7
South Lanarkshire	12.3	7
Falkirk	13.6	9
Edinburgh City	13.9	10
North Lanarkshire	14.2	11
Argyll & Bute	14.4	12
Orkney Islands	14.7	13
Angus	16.1	14
Dumfries & Galloway	16.5	15
East Lothian	16.6	16
Shetland Islands	16.9	17
West Dunbartonshire	17.1	18
Perth & Kinross	18.0	19
Glasgow City	18.1	20
East Ayrshire	18.4	21
North Ayrshire	18.4	22
Aberdeenshire	18.4	23
Fife	18.5	24
Scottish Borders	18.8	25
Moray	19.6	26
Eilean Siar	19.7	27
Midlothian	20.1	28
Clackmannanshire	20.2	29
Dundee City	21.9	30
Highland	22.7	31
Aberdeen City	23.8	32

CORPORATE SERVICES		
Local Authority	2018/19	Rank
Stirling	9.3	1
West Lothian	10.4	2
Falkirk	11.3	3
South Ayrshire	11.5	4
Perth & Kinross	11.8	5
Aberdeenshire	11.9	6
East Ayrshire	12.4	7
North Ayrshire	12.4	7
Edinburgh City	13.1	9
Inverclyde	14.0	10
Angus	14.1	11
Glasgow City	14.1	11
West Dunbartonshire	14.8	13
Fife	15.6	14
East Lothian	16.5	15
East Dunbartonshire	16.9	16
Aberdeen City	17.0	17
Midlothian	17.0	17
North Lanarkshire	17.6	19
East Renfrewshire	18.6	20
South Lanarkshire	18.6	20
Shetland Islands	19.3	22
Argyll & Bute	19.6	23
Dumfries & Galloway	19.6	23
Dundee City	20.1	25
Renfrewshire	20.1	25
Highland	20.3	27
Moray	20.3	27
Clackmannanshire	20.8	29
Scottish Borders	22.3	30
Eilean Siar	23.0	31
Orkney Islands	24.0	32

ADULT SOCIAL CARE		
Local Authority	2018/19	Rank
East Dunbartonshire	7.6	1
Dumfries & Galloway	7.9	2
Perth & Kinross	10.3	3
Orkney Islands	10.4	4
Aberdeenshire	11.7	5
Glasgow City	12.6	6
Stirling	13.5	7
West Dunbartonshire	13.5	7
Aberdeen City	14.3	9
Inverclyde	14.3	9
Shetland Islands	14.7	11
West Lothian	15.4	12
Highland	16.2	13
Scottish Borders	16.5	14
Renfrewshire	16.6	15
Moray	16.7	16
Clackmannanshire	16.8	17
Dundee City	17.0	18
North Ayrshire	17.1	19
Falkirk	17.5	20
East Renfrewshire	17.6	21
Fife	18.0	22
East Ayrshire	18.5	23
South Ayrshire	18.8	24
Argyll & Bute	18.9	25
South Lanarkshire	20.2	26
Edinburgh City	21.4	27
East Lothian	21.5	28
Midlothian	21.8	29
Angus	22.9	30
North Lanarkshire	23.0	31
Eilean Siar	24.4	32

CULTURE & LEISURE		
Local Authority	2018/19	Rank
Shetland Islands	7.0	1
Edinburgh City	8.9	2
Orkney Islands	9.3	3
South Ayrshire	12.1	4
Inverclyde	13.1	5
Stirling	13.3	6
East Ayrshire	13.5	7
Angus	14.0	8
North Ayrshire	14.0	8
Moray	14.1	10
Dundee City	14.3	11
Perth & Kinross	14.4	12
West Lothian	14.4	12
Clackmannanshire	14.6	14
Aberdeen City	14.6	15
Highland	14.6	15
West Dunbartonshire	14.6	15
Fife	16.6	18
North Lanarkshire	16.8	19
Renfrewshire	16.8	19
Midlothian	16.9	21
Aberdeenshire	17.3	22
Argyll & Bute	18.1	23
Glasgow City	18.6	24
East Lothian	19.8	25
South Lanarkshire	20.0	26
East Dunbartonshire	20.8	27
East Renfrewshire	22.0	28
Falkirk	22.8	29
Eilean Siar	23.6	30
Dumfries & Galloway	23.9	31
Scottish Borders	28.5	32

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES		
Local Authority	2018/19	Rank
East Lothian	12.2	1
Moray	12.3	2
Fife	13.1	3
Highland	13.7	4
Midlothian	13.7	5
Angus	13.8	6
East Renfrewshire	13.9	7
Dundee City	14.0	8
Clackmannanshire	14.1	9
Aberdeenshire	14.3	10
North Ayrshire	14.5	11
South Lanarkshire	14.7	12
Orkney Islands	14.7	13
West Dunbartonshire	14.7	13
Aberdeen City	15.5	15
Perth & Kinross	15.9	16
Shetland Islands	15.9	16
East Ayrshire	16.1	18
West Lothian	16.1	19
East Dunbartonshire	16.3	20
Renfrewshire	16.3	20
Inverclyde	17.2	22
North Lanarkshire	17.5	23
Scottish Borders	18.1	24
Dumfries & Galloway	18.5	25
Falkirk	18.6	26
South Ayrshire	19.9	27
Edinburgh City	20.5	28
Eilean Siar	21.1	29
Glasgow City	21.4	30
Stirling	22.6	31
Argyll & Bute	24.7	32

HOUSING SERVICES		
Local Authority	2018/19	Rank
North Ayrshire	3.6	1
West Lothian	7.2	2
East Renfrewshire	8.4	3
Clackmannanshire	10.6	4
South Ayrshire	11.2	5
East Ayrshire	11.6	6
Stirling	11.6	6
North Lanarkshire	11.8	8
West Dunbartonshire	11.8	8
Highland	12	10
Falkirk	12.8	11
Renfrewshire	13	12
Midlothian	13.2	13
Fife	13.4	14
Moray	13.4	14
Dundee City	14	16
Edinburgh City	14.8	17
Shetland Islands	14.8	17
South Lanarkshire	14.8	17
Perth & Kinross	15.8	20
East Lothian	16.4	21
Angus	17.2	22
Aberdeen City	17.6	23
Aberdeenshire	17.6	23
East Dunbartonshire	18.8	25
Orkney Islands	21.6	26
Argyll & Bute		
Dumfries & Galloway		
Eilean Siar		
Glasgow City		
Inverclyde		
Scottish Borders		

CORPORATE ASSET		
Local Authority	2018/19	Ranks
West Lothian	2.0	1
Angus	7.0	2
Stirling	7.0	2
East Ayrshire	7.5	4
Renfrewshire	8.0	5
North Ayrshire	8.5	6
Inverclyde	9.5	7
Orkney Islands	10.0	8
South Lanarkshire	10.0	8
Clackmannanshire	13.0	10
Falkirk	14.5	11
Glasgow City	14.5	11
Shetland Islands	14.5	11
Aberdeen City	16.0	14
East Lothian	16.0	14
Moray	16.5	16
West Dunbartonshire	16.5	16
East Dunbartonshire	17.0	18
Perth & Kinross	17.0	18
Argyll & Bute	18.0	20
North Lanarkshire	19.5	21
East Renfrewshire	20.0	22
South Ayrshire	20.5	23
Eilean Siar	23.5	24
Dumfries & Galloway	24.0	25
Dundee City	24.0	25
Fife	24.0	25
Scottish Borders	24.0	25
Aberdeenshire	24.5	29
Edinburgh City	25.5	30
Midlothian	27.5	31
Highland	28.0	32

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
Local Authority	2018/19	Rank
Aberdeenshire	10.3	1
West Lothian	12.2	2
Eilean Siar	12.2	3
Dundee City	12.6	4
Edinburgh City	12.6	4
Falkirk	13.1	6
North Ayrshire	13.9	7
Midlothian	14.9	8
Renfrewshire	14.9	8
North Lanarkshire	15.0	10
Dumfries & Galloway	15.1	11
East Renfrewshire	15.3	12
Perth & Kinross	15.6	13
Inverclyde	16.5	14
West Dunbartonshire	16.5	14
Stirling	16.9	16
South Ayrshire	17.1	17
Fife	17.2	18
Glasgow City	17.2	18
Moray	17.3	20
Aberdeen City	17.5	21
East Lothian	17.5	21
Orkney Islands	17.6	23
Clackmannanshire	17.9	24
Highland	17.9	24
Scottish Borders	17.9	24
East Dunbartonshire	18.5	27
Angus	18.6	28
Shetland Islands	19.3	29
South Lanarkshire	19.9	30
East Ayrshire	20.9	31
Argyll & Bute	21.9	32