

Board Paper

12th February 2014

Paper Title	Corporate Dashboard – Second Report August to December 2013
Paper Reference:	NRW B O 4.14
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Purpose of Paper:	To consider the second report of the Corporate Dashboard for August to December of 2013/14.
Recommendation:	The Board is requested to: Endorse the performance as given in the Corporate Dashboard so it can be reported to the Minister for Natural Resources & Food.

Impact: To note – all headings might not be applicable to the topic	Impact on the Environment: The Corporate Dashboard indicates progress against our priorities for the first year for the environment Impact on the Economy: The Corporate Dashboard indicates progress against our priorities for the first year to support the economy Impact on Community: The Corporate Dashboard indicates progress against our priorities for the first year to support communities Impact on Knowledge: The Corporate Dashboard provides evidence in support of decision making for the organisation and its work
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Issue

1. The Corporate Dashboard demonstrates our performance in delivering the priorities of the Business Plan and Remit Letter. This paper provides information on performance for the period August to December 2013.

Background

2. The Corporate Dashboard and reporting process was approved for use in monitoring performance against the 2013/14 Business Plan by the Board at its meeting on 9 July 2013. The first report of the Corporate Dashboard, for April to July 2013, was considered at the Board meeting on 4 September 2013. Subsequently a Board sub group reviewed the Corporate Dashboard to offer advice on improving the way the Corporate Dashboard operates. The Corporate Plan 2014-17 and Business Plan 2014/15 will develop a separate Performance Framework using the experience of the first year's Corporate Dashboard.

3. The Corporate Dashboard, in annex 1, displays performance information on 46 prioritised measures. In annex 2, we provide 10 summary reports that give detail on what has been achieved and what is still left to do.

4. The Executive Directors have scrutinised performance for all 46 measures, and have considered the advice of the Board sub group to deliver a Corporate Dashboard which permits a greater level of scrutiny by the Board.

5. The Board has a governance role in scrutinising performance of the organisation and holding the executive to account. The Board additionally has a role in reporting performance to the Minister for Natural Resources & Food.

Proposals and Next Steps

6. The Board is requested to note the performance across the 46 measures:

- 28 green (previously 30);
- 15 amber (nearly (within 10%) on target) (previously 14);
- 3 red (indicating we are not where we planned to be) (previously 2).

7. Points to note in relation to the performance measures are as follows:

- The updating of Natura 2000 Management Plans is reported red and expected to be red at the year-end. The staff time used to undertake this has been diverted to address the significant volume of delayed input to Glastir agreements which supports Welsh farmers and delivers direct environmental improvement. The

Glastir work is time limited and would have affected payments to farmers and land managers. Our Management Plan updating is not subject to statutory deadlines but we will re-prioritise this work next financial year so we are green by year end.

- Our response to planning consultations is reported red, but expected to be amber at the year-end as we continue with efforts to improve the service.
- We are handling our work on Habitats Directive advice by forming project teams to address specific cases so that we give 'single voice' advice on new developments in sensitive locations. Legal advice is being sought to assist in developing the guidance.
- The reporting of Health and Safety lost time incidents was red in the previous period, but is now green. We are continuing to develop this measure following previous Board feedback, which includes reviewing the way information is collected. We are not complacent and recognise this, along with how we report absence, may be under reporting. We are stepping up our actions to reinforce with all staff the reporting requirements using legacy systems until unified systems are implemented.

8. The Board is requested to endorse the performance as given in the Corporate Dashboard so it can be reported to the Minister for Natural Resources & Food. It will additionally be issued to Sponsorship officials within the Minister's department, who will advise the Minister and share with other relevant Ministers.

9. The Executive Directors have carried out accurate reporting along with robust review and challenge in completing the dashboard. In performing their scrutiny role, Executive Directors have reviewed and recalibrated targets where appropriate, and these are noted on the Corporate Dashboard. This, and the drawing out of the issues of Ministerial Priorities, our reputation and our partnership engagement, reflects the advice given by the Board sub group.

Risks

10. Without proper scrutiny of our performance there is a risk that we would fail to deliver the priorities of our business plan which would lead to damage to our reputation.

Financial Implications

11. There are no significant financial implications in providing this performance report.

Legal and Compliance Issues

12. The Board has a legal duty to oversee and direct Natural Resources Wales and is accountable to Welsh Government.

Communications

13. The Corporate Dashboard requires communication to the Minister for Natural Resources & Food.

14. A copy of the Corporate Dashboard performance will be placed on the Natural Resources Wales Website to inform the public.

Equality impact assessment (EqIA)

15. Not Applicable

Index of Annex

Annex 1: Corporate Dashboard (August to December 2013)

Annex 2: Corporate Dashboard Summary Reports