



haringey strategic partnership

CAA

Area Assessment

CAA - Scope

Two elements which will inform each other:

- **Area assessment** – will look at how well local public services are delivering better results for local people in local priorities such as health, economic prospects and community safety and how likely they are to improve in the future
- **Organisational assessment** – use of resources and performance management combined into an assessment of organisational effectiveness

Area Assessment

Will focus on 3 main questions:

1. How well do local priorities express community needs and aspirations?
2. How well are the outcomes and improvements needed being delivered?
3. What are the prospects for future improvements?

1. How well do local priorities express community needs and aspirations?

Key themes:

- how well councils and partners know and engage their communities and understand the needs of marginalised groups
- have communities been involved in identifying priorities
- have communities been involved in assessing whether priorities are delivered
- are partners effective in co-ordinating community engagement and communicate its impact on their decisions

2. How well are the outcomes and improvements needed being delivered?

Inspectors will be looking for answers to:

- How safe is the area?
- How healthy and well supported are people?
- How well kept is the area?
- How environmentally sustainable is the area?
- How strong is the local economy?
- How strong and cohesive are local communities?
- How well is inequality being addressed?
- How well is housing need met?
- How well are families supported?
- How good is the well being of children and young people?

3. What are the prospects for future improvements

Inspectorates will look for answers to:

- Do local partners have the capacity and capability to deliver their ambitions, strategies and plans?
- Are local partners taking adequate action to manage, mitigate or address any risks?
- Are local partners engaged in any exceptional innovative practice?
- How well improvement planning is being implemented –are key objectives and milestones being achieved and do local partners have robust plans for improving?

Reporting the Area Assessment

Annual reporting with a summary report providing an overview of:

- Key priorities
- Overall successes and challenges
- Summary of prospect
- **Red flags** will be used to indicate that current arrangements are inadequate to deliver improvements but will only be given where inspectorates are not satisfied that sufficient corrective action is being taken. There will be a challenge procedure for red flags - details to be published later
- **Green flags** will only be given for exceptional or innovative practice. Non-awarding of green flags will not be able to be challenged.

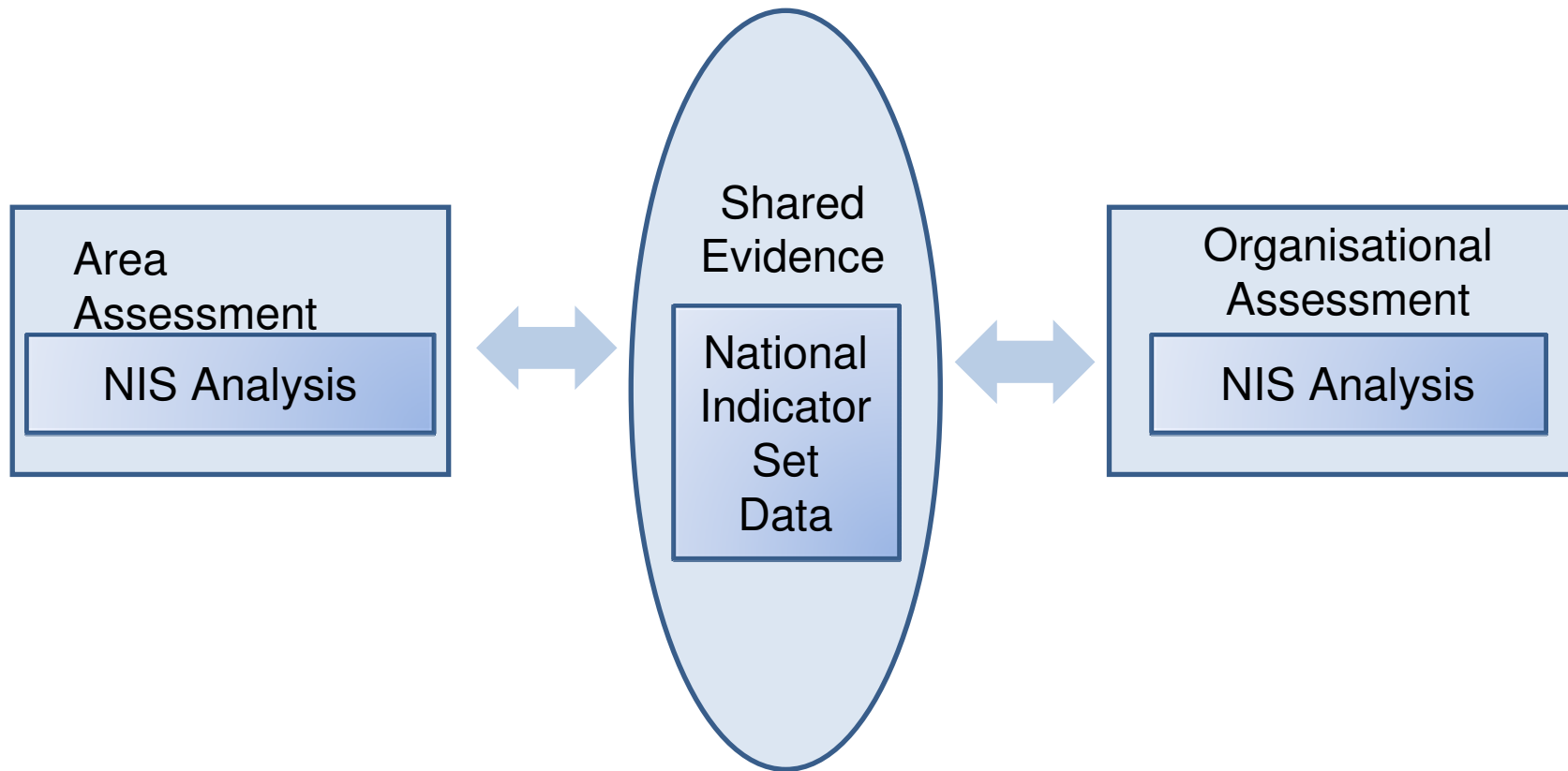
Organisational Assessment

- Will look at how the Council, Police, Fire and PCT deliver value for money through the use of resources assessment and how well it manages its performance

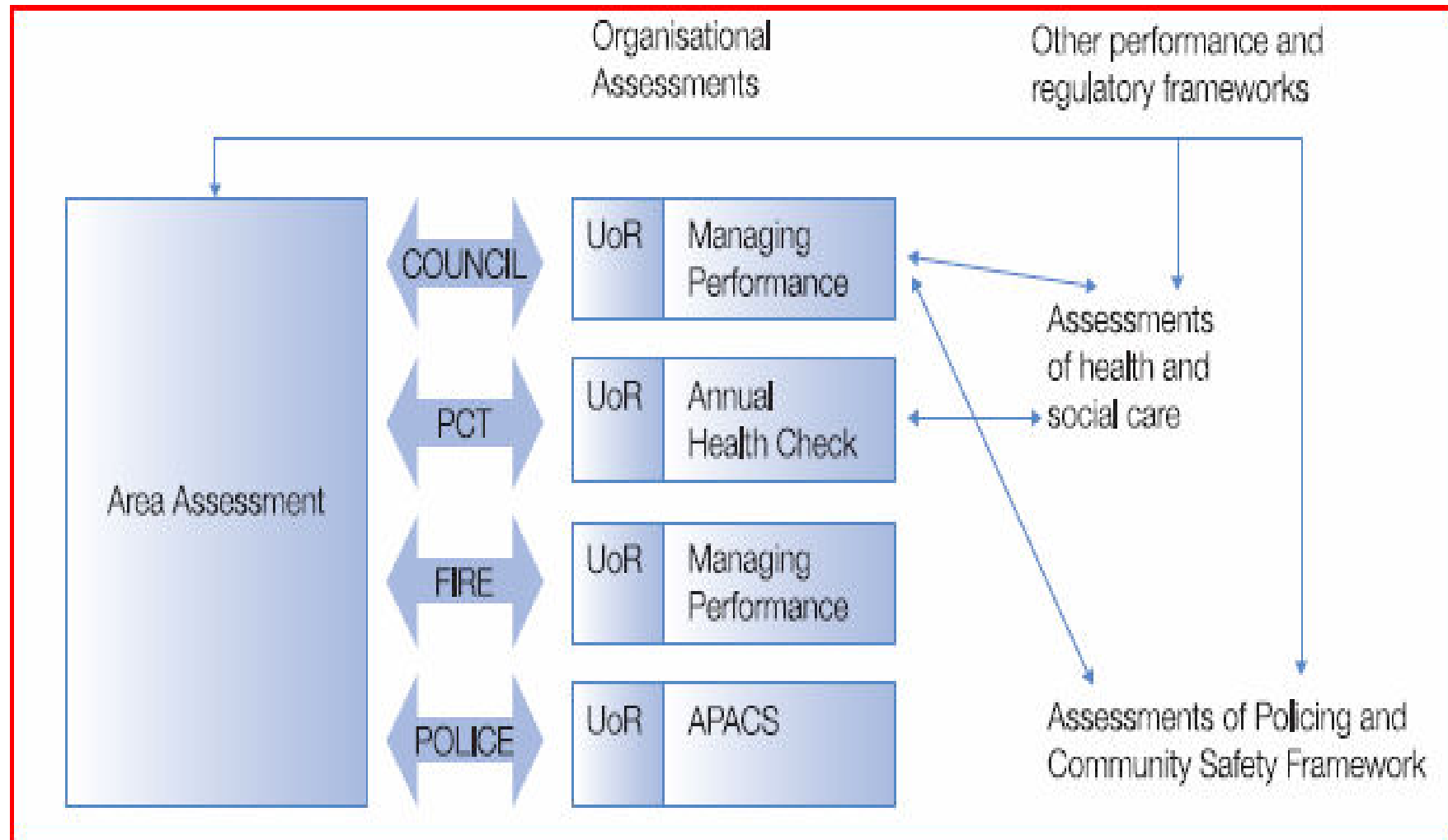
Four key themes:

- 1. Managing finances**
- 2. Governing the business**
- 3. Managing resources**
- 4. Managing Performance**

Link between Area Assessment & Organisational Assessment



How CAA will align to other performance frameworks

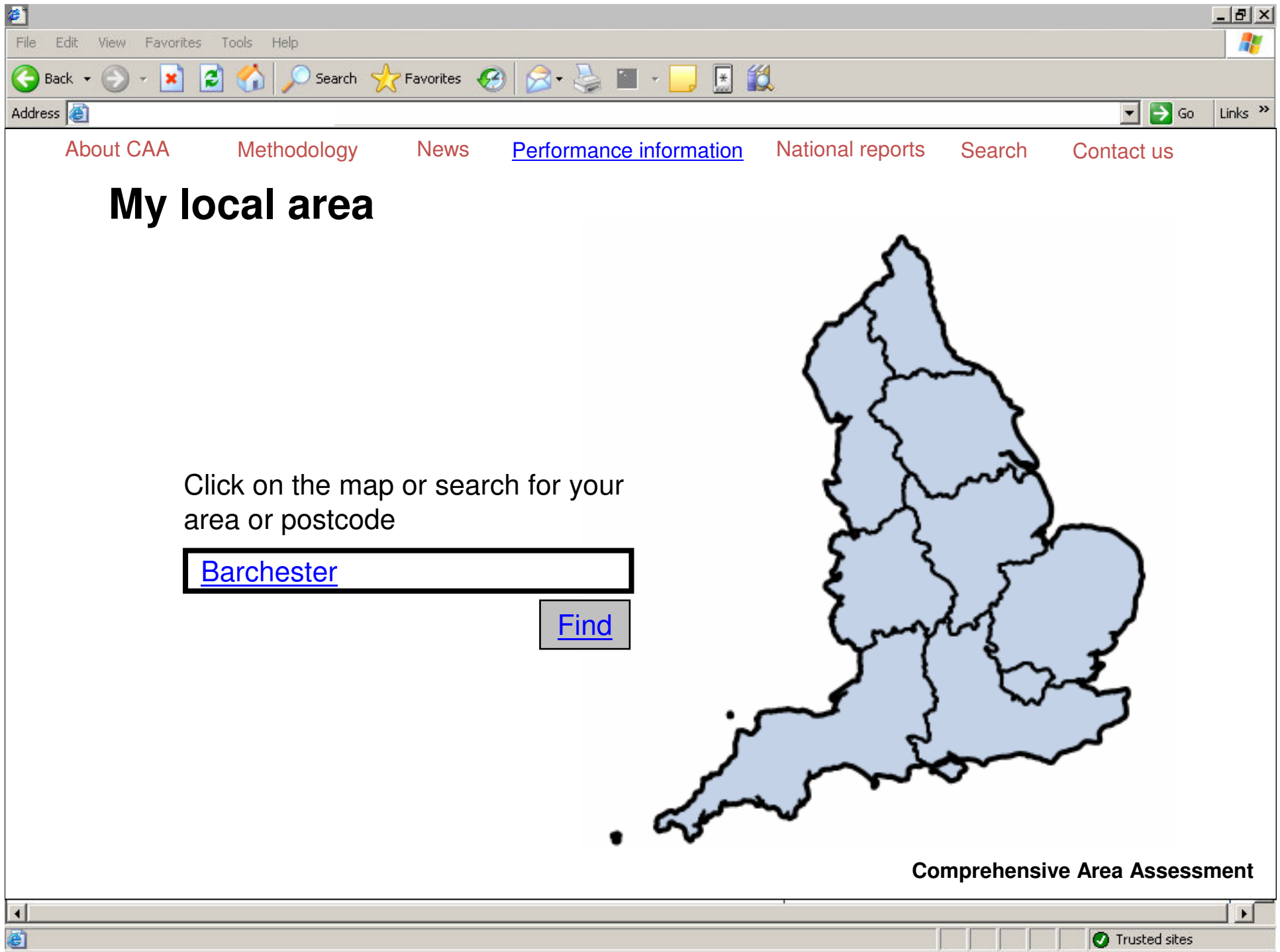


Timelines

Not 'once a year activity' – evidence will be gathered and updated throughout the year with quarterly updates

Up to mid September	Joint inspectorate gathering latest available information including summer educational attainment
Late September	Joint inspectorate drafts reports, including red and green flags
October	Key issues discussed with local partners. Joint inspectorate undertake final quality assurance
October/November	Draft report shared with partners. Ten days to challenge area assessment and organisational assessment
November	Resolve any challenges through formal process
Late November	Publish reports

What will the reports look like

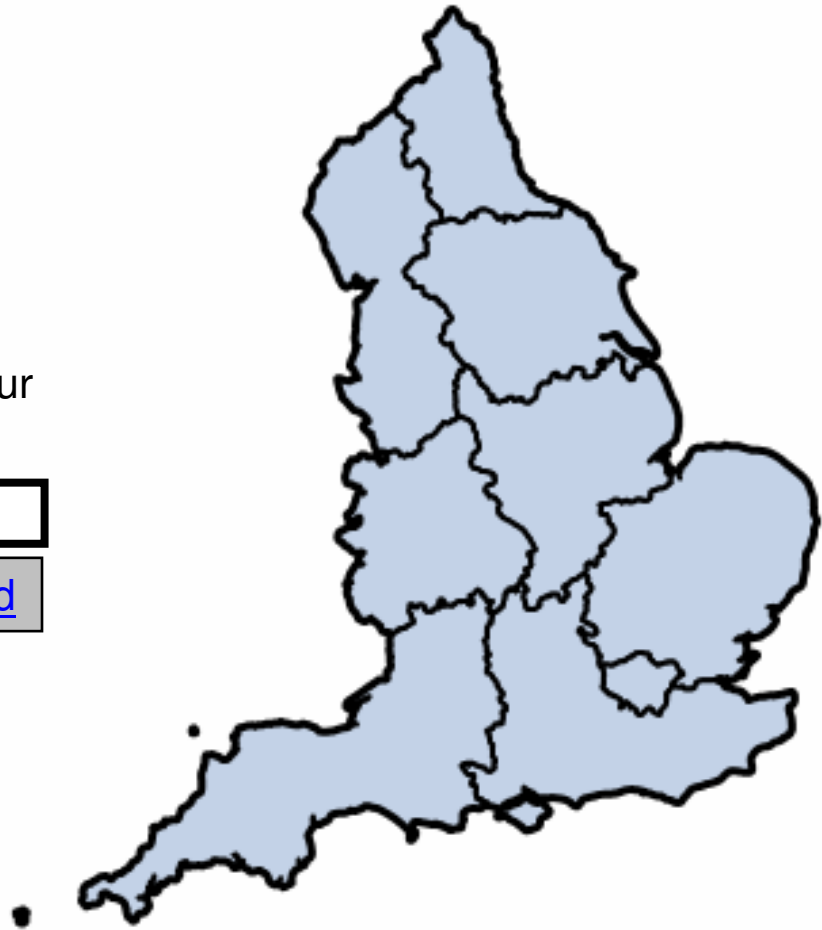


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Comprehensive Area Assessment

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My Barchester, in summary

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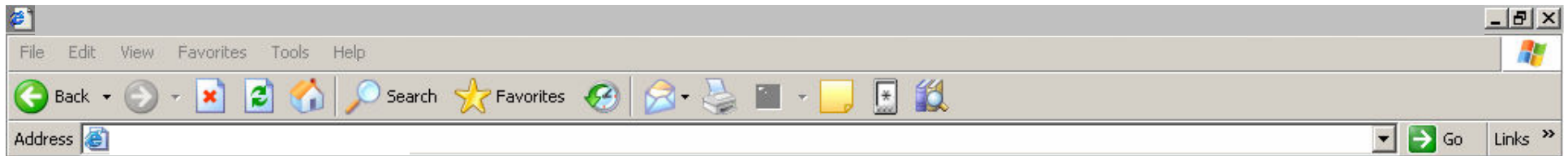
Local innovation and excellence in Barchester	Where different action is needed to deliver improvements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significantly reduced energy consumption and CO2 emissions Excellent employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affordable housing Community cohesion Educational attainment

prospects
 Only 58 per cent of people in Barchester are satisfied with their area as a place to live. People are worried about whether people from different backgrounds get on well together. More needs to be done to help make sure that people coming into Barchester can integrate with existing communities. There is a significant need for more affordable housing in Barchester but not enough is being done to develop more housing to meet the needs of local people.

Barchester's public services are getting better at protecting the environment. They are using much less energy to heat and power their own buildings. They are also helping local people to greatly reduce the energy they use and many people have been given free advice and cheaper insulation.

The economy in Barchester is growing. More and more people are being helped to get jobs in Barchester. There are many fewer people on benefits and the new jobs are better paid and higher skilled. More people are being helped to start their own businesses, and businesses that already exist are being helped to grow. Crime in Barchester is low and still reducing and most people feel safe. There have been some hotspots for crime in the past. Activities have been targeted to these areas, for example a bigger police presence, and this has reduced the problem. People in some parts of Barchester have been worried about anti-social behaviour. The police, councils and fire service have worked well together to reduce anti-social behaviour.

The health of people in Barchester is getting better. Health services have worked with children in local schools [Find out more...](#)



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- [How healthy and well supported are people?](#)
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How well is housing need being met?

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Red – Insufficient affordable housing

Barchester is among the least affordable places in the country to live. Providing new housing, particularly affordable housing and rural housing and the related infrastructure, is a key priority across the county which is not being addressed. There is a significant risk that plans to develop 28,000 new housing units, of which 11,500 are to be affordable, by 2015 will not be achieved. Only 312 new affordable housing units were delivered in 2009. There is evidence that the lack of affordable housing has already contributed to a 15 per cent increase in homelessness in the last two years and numbers on the waiting list for social housing have increased by over 40 per cent in the last three years. Satisfaction with housing, and particularly social housing, has fallen by 12 per cent over the last three years. The partnership is aware of the scale of the challenges it faces and the communities of greatest need. However, there is little knowledge of the new communities entering Barchester to support the growing economy that are also placing demands on housing. A major change is needed to achieve the regional plan target of delivering 70,000 new homes by 2020. Housing growth, on the scale proposed, will impact on the local environment and create new demands on transport and schools. However, plans and resources are not currently in place to meet these future needs. While demand for new affordable housing is being met in some areas, local development frameworks in Henford, Jeston and [Northly](#) districts have not identified sufficient sites to meet their needs. What new housing is planned is not close to centres of employment or public services, for example schools and hospitals, which will drive up travel distances, especially by car. Henford, Jeston and [Northly](#) district councils, the [county council](#) and registered providers need to develop stronger working relationships and work more collaboratively and effectively to tackle this challenge.

There is a need for improvements in the condition of privately rented housing across Barchester. In particular, poor quality insulation in much housing in the Jeston and Henford areas is having a significant effect on fuel bills, especially for older people.

Temporary traveller sites in Riverside provide accommodation for approximately 19 families. However, a

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Overall Barchester County Council performs	
Managing performance	Value for money
2 out of 4	2 out of 4

Summary

See a more [detailed report](#) or find out [about Barchester](#)

Barchester County Council performs adequately. The council is providing adequate value for money and manages its performance adequately.

We have found that Barchester County Council puts people first in the way it provides individual services, for example its care services, fear of crime and schools projects. The Council has been successful in delivering reductions in crime, the fear of crime, economic renewal, young people’s health and support for those who live at home. However these good individual services must be balanced against other services that are performing less well such as waste management and highways maintenance.

We also have concerns about the future and whether the Council is working well enough with all of its partners and is providing leadership to the community by tackling its priorities in a joined up way. There are gaps in the way that the Council links its high level plans with individual projects such as new housing, improving skills and ensuring long term community cohesion and how it works with its local partners. Barchester County Council manages its finances adequately. Although it is in sound financial health its financial plans are based on minimal consultation with partners and local people and there is only limited shifting of resources to meet its priorities. Value for money has improved but there are still some services that cost more than, but are not performing as well as, similar services provided by other councils.

Next Steps

Timescale	Action	Who
January 2009	Publish final CAA framework	Audit Commission
February 2009	Publish final council CPA results	Audit Commission
November 2009	Publish first CAA reports	Joint inspectorate

Next Steps

- Complete assessment against the key questions so that we can identify gaps together
- PMG Session with pilot site on Area Assessment.
- Prepare action plan to address gaps