



2014 CHAPTER 8

PART 12

PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT

*Improvement planning and information*

**Collection of information relating to performance**

- 90.—**(1) A council must make arrangements for—
- (a) the collection of information which will allow it to assess whether it has met during a financial year those improvement objectives set under section 85(1) which are applicable to that year;
  - (b) the collection of information which will allow it to—
    - (i) measure its performance during a financial year by reference to those performance indicators specified under section 89(1)(a) which are applicable to the council for that year;
    - (ii) assess whether it has met during a financial year those performance standards specified under section 89(1)(b) which are applicable to the council for that year;
  - (c) the collection of information which will allow it to—
    - (i) measure its performance during a financial year by reference to those self-imposed performance indicators which are applicable to that year;
    - (ii) assess whether it has met during a financial year those self-imposed performance standards which are applicable to that year.
- (2) For the purposes of this section and sections 91 and 92—

- (a) a self-imposed performance indicator is a factor by reference to which a council has decided to measure its performance in exercising its functions; and
- (b) a self-imposed performance standard is a standard which a council has decided to meet in relation to a self-imposed performance indicator.

### **Use of performance information**

**91.**—(1) A council must use the information it collects under section 90 to compare its performance in exercising the functions to which the information relates with—

- (a) its performance in exercising those or similar functions during previous financial years; and
  - (b) so far as is reasonably practicable, the performance of other councils in exercising those or similar functions during the financial year to which the information relates and during previous financial years.
- (2) A council must—
- (a) use the information it collects under section 90 to assess whether it could improve its performance in exercising its functions; and
  - (b) in the light of that assessment, decide what steps it will take with a view to improving its performance in exercising its functions.
- (3) In discharging its duty under this section and section 90 a council must have regard to any guidance issued by the Department.

### **Improvement planning and publication of improvement information**

**92.**—(1) A council must make arrangements in accordance with this section for the publication of the information described below.

- (2) The council must make arrangements for the publication of—
- (a) the council's assessment of its performance during a financial year—
    - (i) in discharging its duty under section 84;
    - (ii) in meeting the improvement objectives it has set itself under section 85 which are applicable to that year;
    - (iii) by reference to performance indicators specified under section 89(1)
      - (a) and self-imposed performance indicators which are applicable to that year;
    - (iv) in meeting performance standards specified under section 89(1)(b) and self-imposed performance standards which are applicable to that year;
  - (b) the council's assessment of its performance in exercising its functions during a financial year as compared with—

- (i) its performance in previous financial years; and
  - (ii) so far as is reasonably practicable, the performance during that and previous financial years of other councils;
  - (c) details of the information collected under section 90 in respect of a financial year and what the council has done to discharge its duties under section 91 in relation to that year.
- (3) Those arrangements must be framed so that the information is published before—
- (a) 30th September in the financial year following that to which the information relates; or
  - (b) such other date as the Department may specify by order.
- (4) The council must make arrangements for the publication of a description of the council's plans for discharging its duties under sections 84(1), 85(2) and 89(5) in a financial year together with, if the council thinks fit, its plans for subsequent years (an "improvement plan").
- (5) Those arrangements must be framed so that the information is published—
- (a) as soon as is reasonably practicable after the start of the financial year to which the plan must relate; or
  - (b) as soon as is reasonably practicable after such other date as the Department may specify by order.
- (6) Without prejudice to the generality of section 111, guidance issued under that section may address—
- (a) the manner in which assessments of performance are to be carried out;
  - (b) the making of an improvement plan including the procedure to be followed.