

REPORT TO: Policy and Performance Review Committee

DATE: 12 June 2025

BY: Executive Director for Council Resources

SUBJECT: Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2023/24

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide Elected Members with a summary of East Lothian Council's performance according to the Local Government Benchmarking Framework 2023/24.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the report and use the information provided to consider whether any aspect of the Council's benchmarking performance is in need of further investigation.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) was developed by the Improvement Service (IS), on behalf of SOLACE (Society of Local Authority Chief Executives). Its core purposes are to help councils to gain greater insight into their performance in order to drive improvement, deliver better outcomes and to strengthen public accountability. This is done through the process of benchmarking and allows councils that are similar to compare performance, and to learn and understand better why variances occur.
- 3.2 The Framework covers nine service areas: children's services; corporate services; adult social care; culture and leisure; environmental; housing; economic development; financial sustainability; and climate change. The data is gathered from a number of sources including the Local Finance Return (LFR), Scottish Social Housing Charter, and the Scottish Household Survey (SHS). The LGBF now includes over 100 indicators around three factors – cost, performance, and satisfaction.

- 3.3 The Improvement Service published the National Overview Report for 2023/24 in March 2025. It should be noted that we do not yet have year-on-year comparable data for all indicators. There are several indicators which rely on nationally collected and verifiable data which will be available later in the year.

National Overview

- 3.4 The LGBF National Overview Report provides a high-level analysis of the performance of councils both during 2023/24 and over the longer term. It provides analysis of the national trends as well as variations across councils. It highlights financial, workforce, and demand pressure affecting councils, as well as their impact on services such as education, social care and in tackling poverty.
- 3.5 The 2023/24 report includes data from a period when communities and Council services continue to face significant financial challenges with inflationary pressures and the cost-of-living crisis. This is against a backdrop of increasing demand for services, rising costs and workforce pressures.
- 3.6 Funding for councils has not been increasing in real terms, with funding decreased in real terms by 1.8%. The financial challenges have coincided with new burdens and additional policy commitments, with the funding for these being ring fenced and eroded by inflation. This financial position has led to an increasing reliance on savings, charges, Council Tax increases, reserves and income to bridge the gap in funding.
- 3.7 Furthermore, the report highlights there is evidence of councils having to make increasingly difficult decisions about how they deliver services and what services may have to stop or reduce in order to balance budgets. This is having a negative impact on the performance and efficiency improvements gained in previous years, with some indicators starting to show a decline in performance.

Interpretation of Benchmarking Results

- 3.8 The LGBF provides high-level 'can openers' which are designed to focus questions locally on why variations in cost and performance are occurring between similar councils to identify opportunities for learning.
- 3.9 All cost indicators are profiled as lower cost is better from 1 (lowest cost) to 32 (highest cost). The majority of performance and satisfaction indicators are profiled from 1 (best performing) to 32 (worst performing). Councils use ranking and quartile placements to determine their overall position across Scotland relative to other councils.
- 3.10 However, it should be noted that ranking alone is not a useful method of benchmarking council performance. Many councils will have different priorities in respect to each LGBF indicator. There will be operational differences and demographic and geographical influences that can impact on cost and performance.

Benchmarking & Family Groups

- 3.11 To provide more meaningful benchmarking comparison, similar councils are grouped into family groups (see Table 1). People services family groups are

based on the characteristics of people living in the area, with the least deprived in family group 1 and the most deprived in group 4. For other services, the family group are based on the type of area, with group 1 being the most rural and group 4 making up the larger cities and urban areas. East Lothian is in Group 2 for both benchmarking family groups. Further analysis by family groups and by other councils is available from the Benchmarking Dashboard. The link is available within the background papers section of this report.

Table 1: Benchmarking Family Groups

People Services	Other Services
Children, social care and housing	Corp, C&L, Env, Econ and Dev
Family Group 2	Family Group 2
Angus	East Ayrshire
Argyll & Bute	East Lothian
East Lothian	Fife
Highland	Moray
Midlothian	North Ayrshire
Moray	Perth & Kinross
Scottish Borders	South Ayrshire
Stirling	Stirling

2023/24 Performance

- 3.12 Appendix 1 provides 2023/24 LGBF summary performance results for the Council in relation to each measure listed alphabetically. It provides a comparison with last year's performance, comparison against the Scottish average and the overall rank/quartile position.
- 3.13 Appendix 2 provides the LGBF Performance Report by category – cost, performance and satisfaction – and includes some explanatory commentary for each measure.
- 3.14 The full Local Government Benchmarking Framework includes 109 indicators. There are 75 indicators which relate to the performance of services in delivering outputs and outcomes; 22 indicators relate to the cost of delivering services; and 12 indicators measure satisfaction. All cost indicators have been adjusted for inflation to provide a real cost comparison on trend data.
- 3.15 Table 2 provides a breakdown of the number of indicators that improved or declined by at least 4% between 2022/23 and 2023/24 by indicator type. Although it should be noted that crude comparisons are not altogether useful as it is important to take account of the reasons behind the data and movements as outlined in some comments in Appendix 2. Only 91 indicators have comparable data to measure a percentage change of status from the previous year. In 2023/24, 26 (29%) indicators improved, 45 (49%) remained roughly static, and 20 (22%) declined.

Table 2: Number of indicators with improved / declined values (>4%) by Type

	Improved Status	No Change Status	Declined
Cost	9	6	5
Performance	17	28	15
Satisfaction		11	
Grand Total	26	45	20

- 3.16 Comparison of East Lothian indicators against the Scottish average shows that 48 (53%) of the indicators are performing better than the Scottish average. East Lothian Council's quartile performance when ranking each performance indicator from 1 (highest performance/ lowest cost) to 32 (lowest performance/ highest cost) improved slightly during 2023/24. Just under a third (31%) of the Council's indicators are in quartile 1 and fewer than 1 in four (only 18.4%) are in quartile 4. Overall, 60.9% of indicators are within the first 2 quartiles (top 50%).

Table 3: Count of LGBF indicators by quartile and year

Quartile	2022/23	%	2023/24	%
Quartile 1	27	30.0 %	27	31.0 %
Quartile 2	23	25.6 %	26	29.9 %
Quartile 3	23	25.6 %	18	20.7 %
Quartile 4	17	18.9 %	16	18.4 %

- 3.17 It should be noted that the figures and percentages shown for the two years are not directly comparable due to updates for the previous year's data and the number of performance indicators with data for 2023/24. Not all indicators have data to report for 2023/24. The details of their release date for each indicator are available in the report commentary.
- 3.18 For the 87 indicators with data and a comparable quartile status, 17 declined (20%), 17 improved their quartile position (20%) and 53 (61%) showed no change. Within the 17 that declined, only 3 changed more than 2 quartiles. Within the 17 that improved, 4 changed more than 2 quartiles. Overall, ELC has maintained performance levels relative to the previous year's data. The details of these indicators are highlighted below within positive indicators and areas for further investigation.

Positive Indicators

- 3.19 The following are some of the indicators that showed marked improvement or performed comparatively well in 2023/24:

Cost indicators

- CHN1, CHN2 & CHN3: Cost per Primary Pupil, Secondary Pupil and Pre-School Education place – each of these cost indicators is in quartile 1. One of the main reasons why cost per pupil and pre-school place remain low is that almost all schools and pre-school establishments are at full or near full capacity.

- ENV2a: Net cost per Waste disposal per premise increased slightly to £83 and below the Scottish / family grp average. Rank position in first quartile.
- ECON6 Cost of Economic Development & Tourism per 1,000 Population reduced to £112,977 and just below the Scottish average. Rank position improved from 29th to 17th (quartile 3).
- ENV5b Cost of Environmental Health per 1000 population reduced to £10,374.5 and under the Scottish average. Now within the first quartile.

Performance Indicators

- ECON3: Average time per business and industry planning application (weeks) improved from 12.9 to 7.3 weeks. This is below the Scottish average and has resulted in an improvement in the rank position to 4th.
- ECON5: No of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population improved to 16.5 and above the Scottish average of 13.6. For the year, there were 188 business gateway startups. Rank and quartile position have improved from 25th to 13th.
- CHN5: % of Pupils Gaining 5+ Awards at Level 6 increased from 36% to 40% and above the Scottish average (39%). Rank position improved to 8th place (top 25% of councils).
- CHN7: % pupils in lowest 20% SIMD achieving 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or higher improved from 10% to 22% and just below the Scottish average (23%). Rank position improved from 28th to 9th place.
- CHN14b: Numeracy Attainment Gap (P1,4,7) - % point gap between the least and most deprived pupils reduced across all primary school stages to its lowest level to date for numeracy at 19.8 pp, exceeding the stretch aim of 21.0pp. Quartile position improved from 4th to 3rd.
- CHN21: Participation rates for 16-19 year-olds is above the Scottish average at 94.6% and ranking maintained at 6th overall.
- CORP 3c: the Gender Pay Gap decreased (improved) from 1.8% to 0.5% and is below the Scottish average of 2%. Rank position improved from 17th to 11th.
- CORP 6a: Sickness Absence Days per Teacher increased from 5.77 to 6.65. The rate remains below the Scottish average of 7.63 days per teacher and ranking 6th overall. 1074 teachers and a total of 7149 days lost.

- CORP 10: % Community Care Grant Decisions within 15 Days remained at 99% against a Scottish average of 87% and ranks 5th.
- CORP 12: Proportion of DHP Funding Spent. Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) in Scotland provide essential financial support to those struggling with housing costs. East Lothian Council consistently strives to maximise its use and ensure funds are allocated effectively to support those in most need. 100% was spent during 2023/24 compared to 81.1% the previous year. This has improved rank and quartile position.
- ENV6: % of total household waste that is recycled fell slightly from 53.9% to 53% but remained well above the Scottish average of 43.3% and remained within quartile 1.
- HSN2: Percentage of rent due in the year that was lost due to voids reduced to 0.71. ELC rank position improved from 12th to 4th when compared to other councils.
- Econ 12a: Claimant count as a % of working age population fell from 3.7% to 2.3% and was well below the Scottish average of 3.2% and put East Lothian in quartile 1.
- CHN12b: Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 1 and CHN12f Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 5 have both improved quartile position.
- ENV4b Percentage of A class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment is 28% and just under the Scottish average. Rank now within quartile 2.
- SW2 Direct payments + managed personalised budgets spend on adults (18+) as a % of total social work spend on adults (18+) increased to 6.5%. Figures show spend on DP / MPB has increased to £5.214M. The total gross spend on adult social care reduced to £79.765M in real terms.

Satisfaction indicators

- ENV7a % of adults satisfied with refuse collection is 87% and above the Scottish average. Rank position improved from 11th to 8th (quartile 1).
- Three out of the four Culture and Leisure satisfaction indicators are better than the Scottish average and within quartile 1.

- CHN10 % of adults satisfied with local schools. Improving satisfaction levels now above the Scottish average (71%). Rank position improved from 15th to 6th place and now within quartile 1.
- SW7 % Proportion of care services graded "good" or better in Care Inspectorate inspections has improved to 82.5%. Performance is above the Scottish average (77%). Ranking has improved to 13th place (quartile 2).

Areas for further investigation or improvement

3.20 Several indicators have declining performance or quartile position or are within the 3rd or 4th quartiles and may require further investigation through benchmarking activity:

Cost indicators

- CORP 8: Percentage of invoices sampled that were paid within 30 days improved from 83% to 86.5%. Performance remains below the Scottish average of 93% for 2023/34. Rank position remains within the 4th quartile. The new finance system will improve process times on payment of invoices and through the use of automation.
- C&L1: Cost per attendance at indoor sports and leisure facilities (inc. pools) has increased from £4.94 to £5.78. Number of attendances are decreasing from 848,892 to 684,966. Overall attendances remain lower than pre-pandemic levels with 2019/20 visits at 991,442. Total pool attendances are 297,775 and indoor visits are 387,191 for the year.

Performance indicators

- HSN4b: Average time taken (days) to complete non-emergency repairs has significantly increased from 9.2 to 16.2 days. There were 19,299 non-emergency repairs carried out in the year. Rank position has declined to 24th place. The increase in turnaround time for non-emergency repairs is largely attributable to a focus on improving void times and a redirection of significant resource to that area.
- CHN4: % of Pupils Gaining 5+ Awards at Level 5 increased by 1% to 62% and below the Scottish average of 67%. Rank position remains within the 4th quartile at 25th place. East Lothian's Raising Attainment Strategy 2023-2026 includes the Core Plus Stretch Aim measure of 60% for session 2023/24, rising to 62% in 25/26. The resultant 62% in session 23/24 exceeded the target set.

The causal factors leading to this indicator's performance for 2023/24 are complex and varies by school. East Lothian Council recognises the need for

improvement and is working with schools within our Service Improvement Plan and the associated Raising Attainment Strategy. Raising the attainment of our learners is underpinned by improvements in learning, teaching and assessment as well as ensuring wellbeing, equity and inclusion are realised. The combination of these service improvement priorities will all contribute to raising attainment in line with the national average.

All schools have in place improvement plans and specific targets to raise attainment and reduce the poverty-related attainment gap. These are discussed and challenged on a regular basis.

- CORP 3b: Percentage of the highest paid 5% of employees who are women increased slightly to 54.9% and below the Scottish average of 60%. Rank position is static at 27th place.
- CORP 6b: Sickness Absence Days per Employee (non-teacher) increased from 10.9 to 13.7 days. Number of days absent increased from 37,116 to 41,547. Number of employees decreased from 3400 to 3027.
- CORP-ASSET1: Percentage of operational buildings that are suitable for their current use maintained at 81.5%. Ranking slightly improved at 25th.
- SW3a: % of people aged 65 or over with long term care needs receiving personal care at home fell from 62.4 to 53.4 and is below Scottish average of 63%. Family group average 59.1%. Ranked position is now 31 and within the 4th quartile.
- ECON10: Available employment land as a % of total land allocated for employment purposes in DLP remained static at 7% with a rank of 25th place.
- CHN11: Proportion of pupils entering positive destinations dropped by 2% to 94.5 (Scottish average 96%). However, rank position relative to other council performance has declined from 11th to 28th. This is due to a narrow performance range for this indicator from the lowest of 92% to 99%. A small change in performance can lead to a bigger shift in rank position.
- Corp 9: % of Crisis Grant Decisions within 1 day decreased from 90.5% to 88%. Scottish average is 94%. Rank now within quartile 4 at 28th.
- ECON1: % Unemployed People Assisted into work from Council operated / funded Employability Programmes decreased to 9.8% in 2023/24. There were 167 people assisted into work and the unemployment count increased to 1,700. Rank position has moved from Quartile 2 to 3.

- ECON12a Claimant Count as % of Working Age Population and ECON12b Claimant Count as % of 16-24 Population have remained static and continue to be below the Scottish average. However, rank position relative to other council performance declined slightly and is now within quartile 2 for both indicators.
- ECON9 Town Vacancy Rates has increased to 12% for ELC and within the Scottish average. Rank position moved from 3rd to 15th and now within quartile 2.

Satisfaction indicators

- C&L5c % of adults satisfied with museums and galleries dropped slightly to 75% and now within quartile 2.
- ENV3c Street cleanliness score has remained consistent at 88% (-1.5%). The satisfaction score is below the Scottish average of 92% and rank position has declined from 18th to 27th place (quartile 4). It is important to note our residents' surveys has a high satisfaction rate for street cleanliness.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Local Government Benchmarking Framework represents an important component of East Lothian Council's performance management arrangements and the drive to deliver Continuous Improvement.

5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 The subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on equality, the environment or economy.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Financial – none.
- 6.2 Personnel – none.
- 6.3 Other – none.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Appendix 1: East Lothian LGBF Summary Report 2023/24

- 7.2 Appendix 2: East Lothian LGBF Performance Report 2023/24 (Service Categories)
- 7.3 Benchmarking Dashboard
<https://www.improvementservice.org.uk/benchmarking/explore-the-data>
- 7.4 National Benchmarking Overview Report 2023/24:
<https://www.improvementservice.org.uk/benchmarking/reports>

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Appendix 1 - LGBF Summary Report 2023/24

2023/24

East Lothian

Quartile



= Quartile 1 within top 8 (25%) of Councils

= Quartile 2 within top 16 (50%) of Councils

= Quartile 3 within the lower 16 (50%) of Councils

= Quartile 4 within the lower 8 (25%) of Councils

(Profile based : Cost KPIs & specific performance KPIs: CHN20a CHN20b CHN22 CHN23 CORP 1 CORP

3c CORP 6a CORP 6b SW1 ENV4b ENV4c ENV4d ENV4e HSN1b HSN2 HSN4b Econ3= **lower is better**;

All other Performance & Satisfaction KPIs = **Higher is better**)

CHN19a, CHN20a & CHN20b: Previous Yr= 2 years

All previous costs values are real adjusted costs



ID & Title	Previous Years	Values	Overall Rank	Quartile	Quartile Status
CHN1 Cost Per Primary School Pupil	£6,766.2	£6,731.0	3	1	●
CHN2 Cost per Secondary School Pupil	£8,191.9	£8,358.2	4	1	●
CHN3 Cost per Pre-School Education place	£7,370.8	£7,452.5	1	1	●
CHN4 % of Pupils Gaining 5+ Awards at Level 5	61%	62%			◆
CHN5 % of Pupils Gaining 5+ Awards at Level 6	36%	0.40			●
CHN6 % pupils in lowest 20% SIMD achieving 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or higher	25%	0.36			◆
CHN7 % pupils in lowest 20% SIMD achieving 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or higher	10%	0.22			▲
CHN8a The Gross Cost of "Children Looked After" in Residential based services per Child per Week	£5,104.7				
CHN8b The Gross Cost of "Children Looked After" in a community setting per Child per Week	£422.3				
CHN9 Balance of Care for 'looked after children': % of children being looked after in the community	84%				
CHN10 % of adults satisfied with local schools	77%	78%	6	1	●
CHN11 Proportion of pupils entering positive destinations	96%	94%	28	4	◆
CHN12a Overall Average Total Tariff	951.9	943.24	11	2	▲
CHN12b Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 1	495.0	546.00	22	3	▲
CHN12c Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 2	697.0	671.00	25	4	◆
CHN12d Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 3	989.0	928.00	15	2	▲
CHN12e Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 4	1071.0	1083.00	14	2	▲
CHN12f Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 5	1153.0	1228.00	12	2	▲
	66%	70%	29	4	◆
CHN13a % of P1, P4 and P7 pupils combined achieving expected CFE Level in Literacy					
CHN13b % of P1, P4 and P7 pupils combined achieving expected CFE Level in Numeracy	74%	75%	30	4	◆
CHN14a Literacy Attainment Gap (P1,4,7) - % point gap between the least and most deprived pupils	23.3	22.54	21	3	▲
CHN14b Numeracy Attainment Gap (P1,4,7) - % point gap between the least and most deprived pupils	23.6	19.80	21	3	▲
CHN17 Percentage of children meeting developmental milestones	87%				
CHN18 % of funded early years provision which is graded good/better	91%	87%	24	3	▲
CHN19a % rate of school attendance	90%	90%	18	3	▲
CHN19b % school attendance for 'Looked After Children'	85%				
CHN20a school exclusion rate per 1000 pupils	21.2				
CHN20b School exclusion rate per 1000 Looked After Children	43.2				
CHN21 Participation Rates for 16-19 year olds	95%	95%	6	1	●
CHN22 % of child protection re-registrations within 18 months	0%				
CHN23 Percentage of looked after children with more than 1 placement in the last year (Aug-July)	13%				
CHN24 % of children living in poverty (After Housing Costs)	21%				
CORP 1 Support services as a % of Total Gross expenditure	5%	5%	27	4	◆
CORP 3b The percentage of the highest paid 5% of employees who are women	53%	55%	27	4	◆
CORP 3c The gender pay gap	1.8%	0.5%	11	2	▲
CORP 4 The cost per dwelling of collecting council tax	£8.5	£7.8	23	3	▲
CORP 6a Sickness Absence Days per Teacher	5.8	6.66	6	1	●
CORP 6b Sickness Absence Days per Employee (non-teacher)	10.9	13.73	13	2	▲
	97.6%	96.8%	8	1	●
CORP 7 Percentage of income due from Council Tax received by the end of the year					
CORP 8 Percentage of invoices sampled that were paid within 30 days	83%	87%	29	4	◆
Corp 9 % of Crisis Grant Decisions within 1 day	91%	88%	28	4	◆
CORP 10 % CCG Grant Decisions within 15 Days	99%	100%	8	1	●
CORP 11 The proportion of SWF Budget Spent	191%	110%	23	3	▲
CORP 12 Proportion of DHP Funding Spent	81%	100%	11	2	▲
CORP-ASSET1 % of operational buildings that are suitable for their current use	82%	82%	25	4	◆
CORP-ASSET2 % of internal floor area of operational buildings in satisfactory condition	88%	90%	19	3	▲
SW1 Home Care Costs per Hour for people 65 or over	£25.6	£27.8	10	2	▲
SW2 SDS spend on adults 18+ as a % of total social work spend on adults 18+	4.9%	6.5%	14	2	▲

Quartile



- = Quartile 1 within top 8 (25%) of Councils
- = Quartile 2 within top 16 (50%) of Councils
- = Quartile 3 within the lower 16 (50%) of Councils
- = Quartile 4 within the lower 8 (25%) of Councils

(Profile based : Cost KPIs & specific performance KPIs: CHN20a CHN20b CHN22 CHN23 CORP 1 CORP 3c CORP 6a CORP 6b SW1 ENV4b ENV4c ENV4d ENV4e HSN1b HSN2 HSN4b Econ3= **lower is better**;
All other Performance & Satisfaction KPIs = **Higher is better**)
CHN19a,CHN20a & CHN20b: Previous Yr= 2 years
All previous costs values are real adjusted costs

ID & Title	Previous Years	Values	Overall Rank	Quartile	Quartile Status
SW3a % of people aged 65 or over with long term care needs receiving personal care at home	62%	53%	31	4	◆
SW4a Percentage of adults receiving any care or support who rate it as excellent or good					
SW4b % of adults who agree that their services had an impact in improving their quality of life		76%	4	1	●
SW4c % of adults supported at home who agree they are supported to live as independently as possible		75%	15	2	▲
SW4d % of adults supported at home who agree they had a say in how their care/support was provided		64%	11	2	▲
SW4e % of carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role		36%	5	1	●
SW5 Residential Care Costs per week per resident for people aged 65 or over	£681.6	£641.7	12	2	▲
SW6 Rate of readmission to hospital within 28 days per 1,000 discharges	87.7	90.55	10	2	▲
SW7 % Proportion of care services graded "good" or better in Care Inspectorate inspections	77%	83%	13	2	▲
SW8 Number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged (per 1000 pop 75+)	193.6	213.91	4	1	●
C&L1 Cost per attendance at sports facilities	£4.9	£5.8	26	4	◆
C&L2 Cost per library visit	£3.7	£4.2	21	3	▲
C&L3 Cost of museums per visit	£3.9	£3.4	12	2	▲
C&L4 Cost of parks & open spaces per 1,000 population	£36,022.4	£35,924.0	29	4	◆
C&L5a % of adults satisfied with libraries	85%	79%	4	1	●
C&L5b % of adults satisfied with parks and open spaces	93%	89%	4	1	●
C&L5c % of adults satisfied with museums and galleries	78%	75%	9	2	▲
C&L5d % of adults satisfied with leisure facilities	87%	82%	3	1	●
ENV1a Net cost per Waste collection per premise	£81.9	£80.4	19	3	▲
ENV2a Net cost per waste disposal per premise	£82.4	£83.3	6	1	●
ENV3a Net cost of street cleaning per 1,000 population	£12,670.7	£11,570.3	12	2	▲
ENV3c Street cleanliness score	90%	88%	27	4	◆
ENV4a Cost of maintenance per kilometre of roads	£14,265.7	£11,080.5	13	2	▲
ENV4b Percentage of A class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	27%	28%	16	2	▲
ENV4c Percentage of B class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	33%	34%	24	3	▲
ENV4d Percentage of C class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	28%	29%	16	2	▲
ENV4e Percentage of unclassified roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	36%	36%	19	3	▲
ENV5 Cost of trading standards and environmental health per 1,000 population	£15,458.3	£13,583.6	3	1	●
ENV5a Cost of Trading Standards, Money Advice & Citizen Advice per 1000	£2,984.7	£3,209.1	3	1	●
ENV5b Cost of Environmental Health per 1000 population	£12,473.6	£10,374.5	7	1	●
ENV6 % of total household waste arising that is recycled	53%	53%	6	1	●
ENV7a % of adults satisfied with refuse collection	86%	87%	8	1	●
ENV7b % of adults satisfied with street cleaning	77%	75%	2	1	●
HSN1b Gross rent arrears as at 31 March each year as a % of rent due for the reporting year	5.8%	6.3%	5	1	●
HSN2 Percentage of rent due in the year that was lost due to voids	1.1%	0.7%	4	1	●
HSN3 Percentage of dwellings meeting Scottish Housing Standards	87%	90%	7	1	●
HSN4b Average time taken (days) to complete non-emergency repairs	9.2	16.3	24	3	▲
HSN5a Percentage of council dwellings that are energy efficient					
ECON1 Unemployed People Assisted into work from Council operated / funded Employability Programmes	15%	10%	22	3	▲
ECON2 Cost of Planning & Building Standards per planning application	£4,348.8	£3,915.8	2	1	●
ECON3 Average time per business and industry planning application (weeks)	12.9	7.3	4	1	●
ECON4 % of procurement spent on local enterprises	18%	19%	28	4	◆
ECON5 No of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population	13.0	16.5	13	2	▲
ECON6 Cost of Economic Development & Tourism per 1,000 Population	£226,017.3	£112,977.0	17	3	▲
ECON7 Proportion of people earning less than the living wage	27%	16%	20	3	▲
ECON8 Proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband	96%	96%	20	3	▲
ECON9 Town Vacancy Rates	5%	12%	15	2	▲
ECON10 Available employment land as a % of total land allocated for employment purposes in LDP	7%	7%	25	4	◆

Quartile

- = Quartile 1 within top 8 (25%) of Councils
- ▲ = Quartile 2 within top 16 (50%) of Councils
- ▲ = Quartile 3 within the lower 16 (50%) of Councils
- ◆ = Quartile 4 within the lower 8 (25%) of Councils

(Profile based : Cost KPIs & specific performance KPIs: CHN20a CHN20b CHN22 CHN23 CORP 1 CORP 3c CORP 6a CORP 6b SW1 ENV4b ENV4c ENV4d ENV4e HSN1b HSN2 HSN4b Econ3= **lower is better**;
All other Performance & Satisfaction KPIs = **Higher is better**)
CHN19a,CHN20a & CHN20b: Previous Yr= 2 years
All previous costs values are real adjusted costs

ID & Title	Previous Years	Values	Overall Rank	Quartile	Quartile Status
ECON11 Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita	£16,636.2				
ECON12a Claimant Count as % of Working Age Population	2%	2%	11	2	▲
ECON12b Claimant Count as % of 16-24 Population	3%	3%	13	2	▲
CLIM1 CO2 emissions area wide per capita	10.02				
CLIM2 CO2 emissions area wide: emissions within scope of LA per capita	4.2				
FINSUS1 Total useable reserves as a % of council annual budgeted net revenue	14%	17%	26	4	◆
CLIM3 CO2 emissions from Transport per capita	12.36				
CLIM4 CO2 emissions from Electricity per capita	34.38				
CLIM5 CO2 emissions from Natural Gas per capita	46.73				
FINSUS2 Uncommitted General Fund Balance as a % of council annual budgeted net revenue	2%	2%	12	2	▲
FINSUS3 Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream – General Fund	3%	4%	10	2	▲
FINSUS4 Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream – Housing Revenue Account	30%	33%	21	3	▲
FINSUS5 Actual outturn as a percentage of budgeted expenditure	102%	103%	3	1	●

Appendix 2 - LGBF Performance Report 2023/24 (Service Categories)

Fiscal_YR	2023/24
Local Authority	East Lothian

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LGBF ID & Title	Previous Years	Values		Variation	Scottish Average	Overall Rank	Prev Yr Rank	Quartile	LGBF Comments
Children's Services									
CHN1 Cost Per Primary School Pupil	£6,766.2	£6,731.0	●	£35.2	£7,213.5	3	6	1	● Cost per primary school pupil has decreased slightly to £6731 per pupil. East Lothian Council rank position has moved to 3rd place and below the Scottish average. Primary education gross expenditure reduced to £56877 (£000s). Number of pupils reduced slightly to 8450.
CHN2 Cost per Secondary School Pupil	£8,191.9	£8,358.2	●	£166.3	£8,957.5	4	2	1	● Secondary education gross expenditure increased in real terms to £55,724 (£000s). Number of pupils increased from 6594 to 6667. Overall, ELC ranks 4th when compared to other councils.
CHN3 Cost per Pre-School Education place	£7,370.8	£7,452.5	●	£81.7	£11,658.9	1	1	1	● Cost per pre-school education place increased to £7452 per pupil and below the Scottish average. Number of places increased to 2106. ELC ranks first for this cost indicator.
CHN4 % of Pupils Gaining 5+ Awards at Level 5	61.0%	62.0%		1%	67%	25	24	4	◆ East Lothian's Raising Attainment Strategy 2023-2026 includes the Core Plus Stretch Aim measure of 60% for session 2023/24, rising to 62% in 2025/26. The resultant 62% in session 23/24 exceeded the target set. Performance increased by 1% to 62% and below the Scottish average of 67%. Rank position remains within the 4th quartile at 25th place.
See additional comment in CHN5									

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LGBF ID & Title	Previous Years	Values		Variation	Scottish Average	Overall Rank	Prev Yr Rank	Quartile		LGBF Comments
CHN5 % of Pupils Gaining 5+ Awards at Level 6	36.0%	40.0%	●	4%	39%	8	12	1	●	<p>CHN4 and CHN5 - All schools have in place improvement plans and specific targets to raise attainment and reduce the poverty-related attainment gap. These are discussed and challenged on a regular basis with Quality Improvement Officers. Each secondary school also has a PT Equity to track and monitor the attainment of children and young people impacted by poverty.</p> <p>Note: The stage and the point at which a young person leaves school during or at the end of a school year will have an impact on this measure. School leavers may also have gained attainment in years with different certification methods prior to 2023-24. Due to changes in how qualifications were assessed and graded in the years 2020 to 2023 comparisons of attainment between 2023-24 and earlier years should be treated with significant caution and do not allow for conclusions to be drawn on changes in education performance during this time.</p>

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LGBF ID & Title	Previous Years	Values	Variation	Scottish Average	Overall Rank	Prev Yr Rank	Quartile	LGBF Comments
CHN6 % pupils in lowest 20% SIMD achieving 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or higher	25%	36%	11%	50%	26	29	4	◆ Comment applies to CHN6 & CHN7 - The number of school leavers in SIMD Quintile 1 in East Lothian is typically very small (approx 5% of the total leavers cohort on average). This SIMD group population is significantly smaller than any other SIMD Quintile group population in East Lothian. Due to the size of this population, the percentage achieving is susceptible to more fluctuation over time. All schools have in place improvement plans and specific targets to raise attainment and reduce the poverty-related attainment gap. These are discussed and challenged on a regular basis with Quality Improvement Officers. Each secondary school also has a PT Equity to track and monitor the attainment of children and young people impacted by poverty. Note: The stage and the point at which a young person leaves school during or at the end of a school year will have an impact on this measure. School leavers may also have gained attainment in years with different certification methods prior to 2023-24. Due to changes in how qualifications were assessed and graded in the years 2020 to 2023 comparisons of attainment between 2023-24 and earlier years should be treated with significant caution and do not allow for conclusions to be drawn on changes in education performance during this time.
CHN7 % pupils in lowest 20% SIMD achieving 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or higher	10%	22%	12%	23%	9	28	2	▲ see comment on CHN6
CHN8a The Gross Cost of "Children Looked After" in Residential based services per Child per Week	£5,104.7					20		Official data being released in June 2025
CHN8b The Gross Cost of "Children Looked After" in a community setting per Child per Week	£422.3					12		Official data being released in June 2025
CHN9 Balance of Care for 'looked after children': % of children being looked after in the community	84%					22		Official data being released in June 2025

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LGBF ID & Title	Previous Years	Values		Variation	Scottish Average	Overall Rank	Prev Yr Rank	Quartile	LGBF Comments
CHN10 % of adults satisfied with local schools	77%	78%	●	1%	71%	6	15	1	● Improving satisfaction levels now above the Scottish average and within quartile 1.
CHN11 Proportion of pupils entering positive destinations	96.3%	94.5%		-2%	96%	28	11	4	◆ School Leaver Destinations 94.5% for leaver cohort 2023/24. Rank position relative to other council performance has declined from 11th to 28th. This is due to a narrow performance range for this indicator from the lowest of 92% to 99%. A small change in performance can lead to a bigger shift in rank position.
CHN12a Overall Average Total Tariff	951.9	943.24	●	-8.7	916.9	11	11	2	▲ Comment for all Total Tariff Indicators - All schools have in place improvement plans and specific targets to raise attainment and reduce the poverty-related attainment gap. These are discussed and challenged on a regular basis with Quality Improvement Officers. Each secondary school also has a PT Equity to track and monitor the attainment of children and young people impacted by poverty. Note: The stage and the point at which a young person leaves school during or at the end of a school year will have an impact on this measure. School leavers may also have gained attainment in years with different certification methods prior to 2023-24. Due to changes in how qualifications were assessed and graded in the years 2020 to 2023 comparisons of attainment between 2023-24 and earlier years should be treated with significant caution and do not allow for conclusions to be drawn on changes in education performance during this time.
CHN12b Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 1	495.0	546.00		51.0	658.0	22	27	3	▲ See comment in CHN12a. Quartile position has improved
CHN12c Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 2	697.0	671.00		-26.0	762.0	25	23	4	◆ See comment in CHN12a. Performnace now within quartile 4
CHN12d Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 3	989.0	928.00	●	-61.0	889.0	15	7	2	▲ See comment in CHN12a
CHN12e Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 4	1071.0	1083.00	●	12.0	1049.0	14	16	2	▲ See comment in CHN12a
CHN12f Average Total Tariff SIMD Quintile 5	1153.0	1228.00		75.0	1260.0	12	20	2	▲ See comment in CHN12a. Quartile position has improved
CHN13a % of P1, P4 and P7 pupils combined achieving expected CFE Level in Literacy	66.3%	69.8%		3.6%	74.0%	29	30	4	◆ Literacy rates of pupils across the primary stages in East Lothian increased in 2023-24 to their highest rate since 2020/21 at 69.8% (up 3.6 pp on the previous year). Literacy rates of pupils living in the least and the most deprived areas in East Lothian also increased with learners from the most deprived areas recording their highest achievement rates to date at 54.7%.

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LGBF ID & Title	Previous Years	Values	Variation	Scottish Average	Overall Rank	Prev Yr Rank	Quartile	LGBF Comments
CHN13b % of P1, P4 and P7 pupils combined achieving expected CFE Level in Numeracy	73.8%	75.3%	1.5%	80%	30	28	4	◆ Numeracy rates of pupils across the primary stages in East Lothian increased in 2023-24 to their highest rate since 2020/21 at 75.3% (up 1.5 pp on the previous year). Numeracy rates of pupils living in the least and the most deprived areas in East Lothian also increased with learners from the most deprived areas recording their highest achievement rates to date at 63.7%.
CHN14a Literacy Attainment Gap (P1,4,7) - % point gap between the least and most deprived pupils	23.3	22.5	-0.7	20.2	21	19	3	▲ The attainment gap in East Lothian reduced across all primary school stages to its lowest level to date for literacy at 22.5 pp. In line with the Scottish Attainment Challenge and the East Lothian Council Raising Attainment Strategy, there are stretch aims in place to target improvement in this measure.
CHN14b Numeracy Attainment Gap (P1,4,7) - % point gap between the least and most deprived pupils	23.6	19.8	-3.8	17.4	21	27	3	▲ The attainment gap in East Lothian reduced across all primary school stages to its lowest level to date for numeracy at 19.8 pp, exceeding the stretch aim of 21.0pp. In line with the Scottish Attainment Challenge and the East Lothian Council Raising Attainment Strategy, there are stretch aims in place to target improvement in this measure.
CHN17 Percentage of children meeting developmental milestones	86.9%					7		Official data being released in June 2025
CHN18 % of funded early years provision which is graded good/better	91.5%	86.7%	-5%	89.8%	24	17	3	▲ This indicator shows the quality of Early Years Provision by measuring the proportion of ELC providers rated at least "good" for all quality themes, as a percentage of all funded Early Years Provision, which was inspected by the Care Inspectorate. Quality themes include: Quality of Care and Support: how well the service meets the needs of each person who uses it. Quality of Environment: where the service is delivered, for example, how clean, well maintained, and accessible it is, how is the atmosphere of the service, how welcoming it is. Quality of Staffing: the quality of the staff including their qualifications and training. Quality of Management and Leadership: how the service is managed and led and how it develops to meet the needs of the people who use it.

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LGBF ID & Title	Previous Years	Values	Variation	Scottish Average	Overall Rank	Prev Yr Rank	Quartile	LGBF Comments
CHN19a % rate of school attendance	90.0%	90.3%	●	90.3%	18		3	▲ Overall school attendance in 2023-24 was up slightly on the previous year at 90.3% (+0.3pp) in line with the national average. The East Lothian Council Raising Attainment Strategy sets out the stretch aims in place for each school to improve attendance. Schools across East Lothian use a variety of strategies to promote good attendance and support those who are struggling to attend school.
CHN19b % school attendance for 'Looked After Children'	85%					15		Official data being released in September 2025
CHN20a school exclusion rate per 1000 pupils	21.2					25		Data for this indicator is reported every 2nd year.
CHN20b School exclusion rate per 1000 Looked After Children	43.2					9		Official data being released in September 2025

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CHN21 Participation Rates for 16-19 year olds	94.9%	94.6%	●	-0.4%	92.7%	6	6	1	Annual Participation Measure is 94.6% for 23/24 next report due August 25
CHN22 % of child protection re-registrations within 18 months	0.0%						1		Official data being released in June 2025
CHN23 Percentage of looked after children with more than 1 placement in the last year (Aug-July)	13.1%						9		Official data being released in June 2025
CHN24 % of children living in poverty (After Housing Costs)	21.3%						9		Official data being released in June 2025. This shows the percentage of children who are in households with incomes net of housing costs that are below 60% of the median. Data is published 2 years in arrears i.e. 2019/20 figures published in 2021. The data is published by End Child Poverty. Other data sources are from Scottish Government: Children in Low-income Families: Local area statistics and the Mid Year Population Estimates published by the National Records of Scotland (NRS).

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Corporate Services									
CORP 1 Support services as a % of Total Gross expenditure	4.9%	5.3%		0.4%	4%	27	26	4	◆
CORP 3b The percentage of the highest paid 5% of employees who are women	53.4%	54.9%		1.5%	60%	27	27	4	◆
CORP 3c The gender pay gap	1.8%	0.5%	●	-1.2%	2%	11	17	2	▲ A positive figure indicates male employees are, on average, paid more per hour than female employees. With an average hourly rate for male and female of £20.69 and £20.58, male employees are paid 0.5% more (11p) on average. ELC ranks 11th for this indicator
CORP 4 The cost per dwelling of collecting council tax	£8.5	£7.82		£0.6	£5.9	23	22	3	▲ The number of properties are 53,030 and the council tax spend was £414,517, therefore the cost of collection is £7.82. This is a small decrease on the previous year.
CORP 6a Sickness Absence Days per Teacher	5.8	6.66	●	0.9	7.6	6	8	1	● Teacher sickness absence increased with absence days per teacher rising from 5.77 to 6.65. The rate remains below the Scottish average of 7.63 days per teacher and ranking 6th overall. 1074 teachers and a total of 7149 days lost.
CORP 6b Sickness Absence Days per Employee (non-teacher)	10.9	13.73	●	2.8	13.9	13	4	2	▲ Sickness absence days for local government employees (exc teachers) increased to 13.7 days on average. Number of days absent increased from 37,116 to 41,547. Number of employees decreased from 3400 to 3027.
CORP 7 Percentage of income due from Council Tax received by the end of the year	97.6%	96.8%	●	-0.8%	95%	8	6	1	● ELC Council tax collection performance reduced slightly to 96.8%. The figure is above the Scottish average and just remains in quartile 1. The figure is derived by calculating the income received from council tax for the year of £69,848,423 and dividing this by the income due from council tax for the year, excluding reliefs and rebates of £72,157,652. These figures relate to council tax charges and payments only and exclude water and sewerage.
CORP 8 Percentage of invoices sampled that were paid within 30 days	83.0%	86.56%		3.6%	93%	29	29	4	◆ Invoices paid on time improved to 86.5%. Performance remains below the Scottish average for 2023/34. The Creditors team continues to focus on accuracy and timely payment. There has been an extra focus on statements to anticipate potential issues with suppliers and resolution of mismatches on PECOS orders. The team have been very much involved in the project to replace the finance system.

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CORP-ASSET1 % of operational buildings that are suitable for their current use	81.6%	81.5%		-0.1%	85%	25	27	4	◆ Target for annual improvement for Suitability is currently set at 0.5% in order to reach a realistic target which is achievable based on budgetary constraints, corporate objectives and other factors. Reasons and explanation of why performance may change for 2023/24, compared with previous years, may be the result of factors including: New build works; Refurbishment works, of existing buildings, which have improved Suitability; Changes to Estate (e.g. properties acquired/disposed properties changing from Non; Operational to Operational) which could inadvertently affect overall percentage of Suitability of the Estate; and Recent Condition Surveys have been carried out.
CORP-ASSET2 % of internal floor area of operational buildings in satisfactory condition	88.0%	90.3%	●	2.3%	90%	19	23	3	▲ Reasons and explanation why performance may change for 2023/24 compared with previous years may be the result of a number of factors including: New build works; Refurbishment works, of existing buildings, which have improved Condition; Changes to Estate (e.g. properties acquired/disposed, properties changing from NonOperational to Operational) which could inadvertently affect overall percentage of Condition of Estate; and Recent Condition Surveys have been carried out.
CORP 10 % CCG Grant Decisions within 15 Days	99.0%	99.5%	●	0.5%	83.3%	8	5	1	● The team has successfully achieved a remarkable 99.5% target within the designated 15 working days, demonstrating efficiency, commitment, and excellence in performance.
CORP 11 The proportion of SWF Budget Spent	191.0%	110.0%		-80.9%	128.9%	23	2	3	▲ This KPI highlights the considerable reduction in additional funding for 2023/24 and underscores the stringent financial measures adopted to sustain the scheme's operational delivery. The ranking in this factor reflects a fiscally positive outcome, demonstrating improved alignment with the allocated budget.
CORP 12 Proportion of DHP Funding Spent	81.1%	100.0%		18.9%	101.0%	11	26	2	▲ Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) in Scotland provide essential financial support to those struggling with housing costs. We consistently strive to maximise its use, ensuring funds are allocated effectively to support those in most need.
Corp 9 % of Crisis Grant Decisions within 1 day	90.5%	88.0%		-2.5%	94.0%	28	22	4	◆ A crisis grant aims to support individuals on low incomes facing emergencies or disasters, with assessment prioritisation being crucial to service delivery. Given the demanding target of processing applications within one working day, ELC's performance remains strong, despite a slight decrease to 88% within the timeframe.

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Adult Care Services									
SW1 Home Care Costs per Hour for people 65 or over	£25.6	£27.78	●	£2.1	£33.6	10	9	2	▲ The cost of home care per hour increased to £27.7. This is lower than the Scottish average of £33.6. Overall, the number of home care hours provided and costs have increased. Service pressures led to available provision being focussed on those with the highest level of need / risk. People were signposted to alternative sources of community support, family, day centres, etc. to help reduce demand on services (this included the introduction of the new VCEL Community First service). The cost per hour of homecare varies considerably according to the service provider. The change in the average hourly is at least in part due to a change in 'mix' of providers.
SW2 SDS spend on adults 18+ as a % of total social work spend on adults 18+	4.9%	6.5%		1.6%	9%	14	20	2	▲ Self Directed Support (SDS) covers both Direct Payments (DP) and Managed Personalised Budgets (MPD), which offer different degrees of choice and control for service users, with use of DP offering the greatest level of choice. Further analysis by type of SDS is useful in terms of measuring progress in delivering the personalisation of care agenda. SDS spend as % of total social work spend increased to 6.5% and below the Scottish average. Figures show spend on DP / MPB has increased to £5.214M. The total gross spend on adult social care reduced to £79.765M in real terms.
SW3a % of people aged 65 or over with long term care needs receiving personal care at home	62.4%	53.4%		-9.0%	63%	31	15	4	◆ % of people aged 65 or over with long term care needs receiving personal care at home fell slightly to 53.4% and is below Scottish average of 62.6%. Family group average 59.1%. Ranked position now 31.
SW4b % of adults who agree that their services had an impact in improving their quality of life		76%	●		70%	4		1	● This indicator is reported every 2 years. The latest is 76% and has improved on the 63% in 21/22.
SW4c % of adults supported at home who agree they are supported to live as independently as possible		75%	●		72%	15		2	▲ This indicator is reported every 2 years. The latest is 74.7% and has improved on the 72.1% reported in 21/22.

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SW4d % of adults supported at home who agree they had a say in how their care/support was provided		64%	●	60%	11		2	▲ This indicator is reported every 2 years. The latest is 63.85% and has improved on the 60.6% reported in 21/22.

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SW4e % of carers who feel supported to continue in their caring role		36%	●		31%	5		1	● This indicator is reported every 2 years. The latest is 35.7% and has improved on the 30.7% reported in 21/22.
SW5 Residential Care Costs per week per resident for people aged 65 or over	£681.6	£641.7	●	£39.8	£723.0	12	14	2	▲ Residential care costs per week for people aged 65 and over reduced to £641.72. Number of long stay residents increased to 620.
SW6 Rate of readmission to hospital within 28 days per 1,000 discharges	87.67	90.55	●	2.88	103.9	10	10	2	▲ Rate of readmission has increased from 87.6 to 90.5 per 1000 discharges. A number of factors contribute to reducing the number of readmissions to hospitals within 28 days of discharge – these include effective discharge arrangements and the coordination of appropriate initial support and follow up and ongoing care to people leaving hospital. Rate of readmission remains below the Scottish / family group average and rank position remains in 10th place.
SW7 % Proportion of care services graded "good" or better in Care Inspectorate inspections	77.0%	82.5%	●	5.5%	77%	13	17	2	▲ The % Proportion of care services graded "good" or better in Care Inspectorate inspections has improved to 82.5%. Performance is above the Scottish average. Ranking has improved to 13th place. The percentage used in this indicator is prone to fluctuation as there is a relatively small number of inspections in East Lothian when compared to larger HSCPs. This means that even one negative inspection result brings the percentage down more significantly.
SW8 Number of days people spend in hospital when they are ready to be discharged (per 1000 pop 75+)	193.6	213.91	●	20.3	841.5	4	1	1	● A delay in discharge can be due to the necessary care, support or accommodation not being available to meet the needs of someone who is clinically ready to leave hospital. Our continued high level of performance in relation to delayed discharge is the result of key health and social care services working collaboratively to ensure people are able to be discharged from hospital in a timely manner.

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Environmental Services									
ENV1a Net cost per Waste collection per premise	£81.9	£80.38		£1.5	£78.7	19	19	3	▲ Net cost of waste collection per premise reduced to £80.38 in real terms, with costs slightly higher than the Scottish average. Cost lower than family grp average of £82.6. Net expenditure reduced to £4,681 (£000) and the number of properties increased to 58,238.
ENV2a Net cost per waste disposal per premise	£82.4	£83.3	●	£0.9	£104.4	6	8	1	● Net cost in waste disposal per premise increased slightly to £83 and below the Scottish / family grp average. Rank position in first quartile.
ENV3a Net cost of street cleaning per 1,000 population	£12,670.7	£11,570.3	●	£1,100.5	£15,960.9	12	13	2	▲ Net cost of street cleaning per 1000 population reduced to £11,570 in real terms. This is below the Scottish / family grp average. Net expenditure reduced to £1,316 (£000s) against an increasing population (113,740).
ENV3c Street cleanliness score	90.0%	88.5%		-1.5%	92%	27	18	4	◆ ELC street cleanliness score has remained consistent at 88.5%. Our local residents surveys has a high satisfaction rate for street cleanliness.
ENV4a Cost of maintenance per kilometre of roads	£14,265.7	£11,080.5	●	£3,185.2	£13,788.3	13	16	2	▲ Gross expenditure increased to £12,778,000 . Km of road is 1153. Overall, cost per km are lower than Scottish average
ENV4b Percentage of A class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	27.2%	28.0%	●	1%	29%	16	19	2	▲ All A Class roads are surveyed every 2 years.
ENV4c Percentage of B class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	32.8%	33.9%		1%	32%	24	22	3	▲ 50% of B Class roads are surveyed every 2 years.
ENV4d Percentage of C class roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	27.7%	29.4%	●	2%	33%	16	12	2	▲ 50% of C Class roads are surveyed every 4 years.
ENV4e Percentage of unclassified roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	36.1%	36.1%	●	0%	36%	19	19	3	▲

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ENV5 Cost of trading standards and environmental health per 1,000 population	£15,458.3	£13,583.6	●	-£1,874.7	£22,804.0	3	3	1	●	
ENV5a Cost of Trading Standards, Money Advice & Citizen Advice per 1000	£2,984.7	£3,209.1	●	£224.4	£7,266.0	3	3	1	●	Costs have increased in real terms from £2984 to £3209 per 1000 population. ELC remains within the first quartile. Costs lower than the Scottish / family grp average.
ENV5b Cost of Environmental Health per 1000 population	£12,473.6	£10,374.5	●	-£2,099.1	£15,538.0	7	9	1	●	Cost performance within the first quartile. The majority of environmental indicators are better than the Scottish average
ENV6 % of total household waste arising that is recycled	53%	53.1%	●	0%	43.5%	6	7	1	●	Total waste that is recycled has been maintained at 53.1% and remains above the Scottish average.
ENV7a % of adults satisfied with refuse collection	86%	87%	●	1%	78%	8	11	1	●	Satisfaction levels maintaining at similar levels. Rank position improved.
ENV7b % of adults satisfied with street cleaning	77%	75%	●	-2%	58%	2	2	1	●	Satisfaction scores at similar levels.

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Housing Services									
HSN1b Gross rent arrears as at 31 March each year as a % of rent due for the reporting year	5.8%	6.3%	●	0.5%	9%	5	4	1	● Gross rent arrears as a percentage of rent due increased to 6.3% and remains below the Scottish / family grp average.
HSN2 Percentage of rent due in the year that was lost due to voids	1.09%	0.71%	●	-0.4%	1.8%	4	12	1	● Percentage of rent due in the year that was lost due to voids reduced to 0.71. ELC rank position is 4th when compared to other councils.
HSN3 Percentage of dwellings meeting Scottish Housing Standards	86.9%	89.7%	●	2.7%	78%	7	6	1	● Scottish Housing Standard continues to improve to 89.7% and now well above the Scottish average and in the 1st quartile.
HSN4b Average time taken (days) to complete non-emergency repairs	9.2	16.3		7.1	10.0	24	15	3	▲ There were 19,299 non-emergency repairs carried out in the year. Average working days taken per repair has significantly increased from 9.2 to 16.3 days. Rank position has declined to 24th place. The increase in turnaround time for non-emergency repairs is largely attributable to a focus on improving void times and a redirection of significant resource to that area, whilst continuing to ensure that emergency repair response targets were met. Despite the increase, the average time remains under the Repairs & Maintenance Policy target of 20 days and tenant satisfaction with repairs during the period was 88.75% against a Scottish LA average of 87.31%.

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Economic development								
ECON1 Unemployed People Assisted into work from Council operated / funded Employability Programmes	15%	9.8%	-5%	12%	22	13	3	▲ This indicator is a measure of the total number of registered unemployed people in a year having received support from a Council funded / operated employability programme and who go on to access employment. % of unemployed people assisted in to work has decreased to 9.8% in 2023/24. There were 167 people assisted into work and the unemployment count increased to 1,700. No. assisted into work as of Q3 is 151 cumulative which is an increase of 16% from same period 2022/23
ECON2 Cost of Planning & Building Standards per planning application	£4,348.8	£3,915.8	● -£433.0	£6,679.1	2	5	1	●
ECON3 Average time per business and industry planning application (weeks)	12.9	7.3	● -5.7	10.7	4	19	1	● Average time per business and industry planning application (weeks) improved from 12.9 to 7.3 weeks. This is below the Scottish average and has resulted in an improvement in the rank position to 4th.
ECON4 % of procurement spent on local enterprises	17.7%	18.7%	1.0%	31%	28	28	4	◆ This measure, focusses on the proportion of procurement spend which is targeted at local enterprises. It is an important indicator of the progress councils are making in delivering on their standing commitment to invest in their local economies and create employment. There are factors that can affect performance such as supply chain and geographical issues. For ELC, the % of procurement spent on local businesses increased slightly to 18.7% and is below the Scottish average of 30%. It is recognised that not all of our goods, works or services will be available to procure locally (within East Lothian) and similarly other neighbouring Local Authorities will not be able to source all their goods, works or services within their own Local Authority areas. It is therefore important that we work across boundaries to collectively invest in our "local" economies. Local 1 is defined as East Lothian first, expanding to the Lothians, which includes Edinburgh, Midlothian and West Lothian (Local 2) and finally expanding to the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region (Local 3), which includes Fife and Scottish Borders local authorities.

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ECON5 No of business gateway start-ups per 10,000 population	13.0	16.5	●	3.5	13.6	13	25	2	▲ 188 business gateway startups during the year and above the Scottish average.
ECON6 Cost of Economic Development & Tourism per 1,000 Population	£226,017.3	£112,977.0	●	-£113,040.4	£118,765.4	17	29	3	▲

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ECON7 Proportion of people earning less than the living wage	27%	16%		-11%	10%	20	20	3	▲ Taken from the Annual Survey for Hours and Earnings by ONS based on the calendar year. The previous data is for 2021/22 at 27%. This indicator shows an decline in the number of working people earning less than the living wage.
ECON8 Proportion of properties receiving superfast broadband	96%	96%	●	0%	96%	20	20	3	▲
ECON9 Town Vacancy Rates	5%	12%	●	7%	12%	15	3	2	▲ Town vacancy rate has increased to 12% for ELC and within the Scottish average. Quartile position has now move to 2
ECON10 Available employment land as a % of total land allocated for employment purposes in LDP	7%	7%		0%	25%	25	26	4	◆
ECON11 Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita	£16,636.2						28		Official data being released in June 2025. Gross Value Added (GVA) per capita measures change in total economic output at the local level per head of population. GVA is a strong tool in comparing the strength and productivity of a local economy. This will be useful in monitoring the economic recovery.
ECON12a Claimant Count as % of Working Age Population	2.3%	2.3%	●	0%	3.1%	11	7	2	▲ Claimant count as a % of the working age population remained static at 2.3%.Total claimant count is 1,540 within a working age population of 66,893.
ECON12b Claimant Count as % of 16-24 Population	2.7%	3.0%	●	0%	3.4%	13	7	2	▲ Claimant % increased for this age group to 2.95%. Total claimant count is 301 within a working age population (16 to 24) of 10,204.

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Culture & Leisure Services								
C&L1 Cost per attendance at sports facilities	£4.9	£5.8	£0.8	£4.4	26	20	4	◆ Cost per attendance at indoor sports and leisure facilities (inc pools) has increased from £4.94 to £5.78. Net expenditure at £3,957 (£000s). Number of attendances are decreasing from 848,892 to 684,966. Overall attendances still remain lower than pre-pandemic levels with 2019/20 visits at 991,442. Total pool attendances are 297,775 and indoor visits are 387,191 for the year. Visit to outdoor facilities (95,837) are not included in the calculation.
C&L2 Cost per library visit	£3.72	£4.16	£0.4	£2.4	21	17	3	▲ Cost of library per visit has increased from £3.7 to £4.16. Visits decreased slightly to 552,121. Physical visits for the year is at 422,094 and virtual visits is 130,027. Net expenditure increased to £2296 (£000s).
C&L3 Cost of museums per visit	£3.9	£3.4	● -£0.6	£3.5	12	12	2	▲ During 2023/24 there was a real terms decrease in cost per museum visit from £3.9 to £3.4. Net expenditure of museums and galleries is £359,000. Also, the number of museum visits increased from 93,761 to 106,487.
C&L4 Cost of parks & open spaces per 1,000 population	£36,022.4	£35,924.0	-£98.3	£23,376.3	29	29	4	◆ Cost of parks and open spaces within East Lothian has reduced to £35,924 per 1000 population. The indicator only measures cost and does not take into account the quality, purpose and quantity of parks and open spaces managed by local authorities.
C&L5a % of adults satisfied with libraries	85%	79%	● -6%	67%	4	3	1	● Satisfaction levels continue to be above the Scottish average and within quartiles1
C&L5b % of adults satisfied with parks and open spaces	93%	89%	● -3%	85%	4	3	1	● Satisfaction levels continue to be above the Scottish average and within quartiles1
C&L5c % of adults satisfied with museums and galleries	78%	75%	● -3%	69%	9	8	2	▲ Satisfaction levels continue to be above the Scottish average
C&L5d % of adults satisfied with leisure facilities	87%	82%	● -5%	67%	3	2	1	● Satisfaction levels continue to be above the Scottish average and within quartiles1

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Financial Sustainability									
FINSUS1 Total useable reserves as a % of council annual budgeted net revenue	14%	17%		3%	24%	26	29	4	◆ This indicator pertains to Movement in Reserves Statement data. The Budget is the approved budget for the start of the financial year. Total usable reserves include Capital Grants Unapplied and Capital Fund. This measure has been incorporated to provide an indication on the level of how a Council is placed to meet unforeseen events. A low level of unallocated reserves may be a sign that a council could struggle if any unknown financial surprises were to occur.
FINSUS2 Uncommitted General Fund Balance as a % of council annual budgeted net revenue	2.3%	2.4%	●	0.1%	2%	12	14	2	▲ This measure has been incorporated to provide an indication on the level of uncommitted reserves. A low level of uncommitted reserves may be a sign that a council could struggle if any unknown financial surprises were to occur. This indicator is calculated as the ratio of uncommitted general fund balance to net revenue expenditure.
FINSUS3 Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream – General Fund	2.7%	4.3%	●	1.5%	6%	10	6	2	▲ This is an indicator of affordability and highlights the revenue implications of existing and proposed capital expenditure by identifying the proportion of the revenue budget required to meet financing costs, net of investment income. This indicator is one of the Prudential indicators currently published by Councils during their budget setting process.

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LGBF ID & Title	Previous Years	Values		Variation	Scottish Average	Overall Rank	Prev Yr Rank	Quartile	LGBF Comments
FINSUS4 Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream – Housing Revenue Account	30.2%	33.1%		3.0%	20%	21	20	3	▲ This is an indicator of affordability and highlights the revenue implications of existing and proposed capital expenditure for the HRA, by identifying the proportion of the revenue budget required to meet financing costs, net of investment income
FINSUS5 Actual outturn as a percentage of budgeted expenditure	102.0%	102.9%	●	0.9%	100%	3	2	1	● The need for budgets and forecasts to reflect actual spending becomes increasingly important for councils with decreasing or low levels of usable reserves to draw on. Councils cannot continue to rely on underspends in certain services offsetting overspending elsewhere. Where services have been found to consistently overspend, budgets should be revised to reflect true spending levels and patterns. This requires good financial management to ensure spending is accurately forecast and monitored within the year.
This measure looks at how well the Council has adhered to their financial plans, i.e. good financial management. The budget is set at the beginning of the year and measured against the actual expenditure occurred.									

Fiscal_YR	2023/24
Local Authority	East Lothian

Key to Icons

Values

● = Better than the Scottish Average (Profile based)

Quartile

- = Quartile 1 within top 8 (25%) of Councils
- ▲ = Quartile 2 within top 16 (50%) of Councils
- ▲ = Quartile 3 within the lower 16 (50%) of Councils
- ◆ = Quartile 4 within the lower 8 (25%) of Councils

(Profile based : Cost KPIs & specific performance KPIs: CHN20a CHN20b CHN22 CHN23 CORP 1 CORP 3c CORP 6a CORP 6b SW1 ENV4b ENV4c ENV4d ENV4e HSN1b HSN2 HSN4b Econ3= **lower is better**;
All other Performance & Satisfaction KPIs = **Higher is better**)
CHN19a,CHN20a & CHN20b: Previous Yr= 2 years
All previous costs values are real adjusted costs



LGBF ID & Title	Previous Years	Values	Variation	Scottish Average	Overall Rank	Prev Yr Rank	Quartile	LGBF Comments
Tackling Climate Change								
CLIM1 CO2 emissions area wide per capita	10.0					29		Official data being released in June 2025
CLIM2 CO2 emissions area wide: emissions within scope of LA per capita	4.2					14		Official data being released in June 2025
CLIM3 CO2 emissions from Transport per capita	12.4					2		Official data being released in June 2025
CLIM4 CO2 emissions from Electricity per capita	34.4					6		Official data being released in June 2025
CLIM5 CO2 emissions from Natural Gas per capita	46.7					9		Official data being released in June 2025