



network news

Year 9 data submission

It's time to submit!

The initial deadline for data submissions is 31 July 2007. This year it's now easier than ever to submit your data. Data can be submitted online via the performance networks secure members only portal - www.apse.org.uk, via email, or if you would prefer by sending a disk or CD.

Remember to take advantage of all the services that you are signed up for and make sure each service area submits their data. With the launch of the Neighbourhood Management report approaching, ensuring data is submitted from as many service areas as possible is crucial to ensuring you are included in the reports and making even more use of your data!

Don't forget, if you send your data in time for the first set of reports, you will be eligible to take part in the annual performance awards for each service area which are taking place at the performance networks seminar on the 6-7 December in Blackpool.

Need help completing your data template?

If you need any help, there are an abundance of resources available to help you complete your data template.

Guidance notes - There are data guidance notes for each service area template on the website and enclosed within your data collection pack. It contains advice on what to include/exclude in each figure and explanations of terms and calculations to be used.

Data completion training sessions - Due to the success of the recent data completion training sessions held in May, we are proposing for some more sessions to be held in August. The sessions are FREE and aimed at people who are new to performance networks and inexperienced in completing the data template. You would particularly benefit from this training if you have never completed a data submission before. We are currently taking notifications of interest for these sessions, if you would like to attend a session in August please complete your details on the notification of interest form and return to Emma Nolan at the APSE office.

Performance network team - The performance network team can assist you with any queries you may have. Contact the performance network team directly via telephone or email, for assistance.

Performance networks team contacts-0161 7721810

Cheryl Walker (membership, data queries)
email: cwalker@apse.org.uk

Sarah Pooley (research, data queries)
email: spooley@apse.org.uk

Emma Nolan (general queries, administration)
email: enolan@apse.org.uk

Peer support - APSE can also offer peer support, with assistance from experienced people from other local authorities who have been participating in performance networks for some time. Please email Emma Nolan at the APSE office for more details enolan@apse.org.uk

Welcome Sarah

The performance networks team would like to welcome Sarah Pooley to the team who will be working as a performance networks officer. Debbie Johns is now overseeing the managerial aspects of Performance Networks following the departure of Alex Kent. I'm sure you will join us in thanking Alex for all her work with performance networks over the years and to wish her every success for the future.

Register your service

Did you know that if your authority is signed up for the all services option, you can register and take part in any other service area, free of charge? Please contact Emma Nolan for a service area list or if you would like to register more services.

E-reports

Performance networks is pleased to announce that this year the performance reports will be sent out for the first time electronically in PDF format allowing greater flexibility of use. A hard copy will still be sent out as well.

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Neighbourhood management model development

Performance networks is publishing a new Neighbourhood Management report in August 2007.

The report builds on joint work with ENCAMS in looking at the possibility of developing a comprehensive local performance framework.

The report will allow performance comparisons to be made across a number of service areas enabling an overall picture of neighbourhood management to be formed in terms of cost, quality and public perception.

It will give the first series of outputs from a set of selected data from the separate APSE performance networks models for street cleansing, parks and open spaces, refuse and recycling collection, highways management and street lighting. The report is an initial measured response to the way in which many local authorities have consolidated services which impact on the public realm in terms of their appearance and condition.

An electronic copy followed by a hard copy will be sent to all performance networks members including those involved in the following services:

- Street cleansing
- Refuse collection
- Parks, open spaces and horticultural services
- Highways
- Street lighting

Please contact Cheryl Walker at the APSE office for further information, or to register for this service.

Get involved

As an APSE member you can be involved in shaping the future of performance networks. Advisory group meetings and working group meetings are being held throughout September and October for each service area. They are FREE to attend and allow discussions to take place, as to what changes you as members would like to see in your service area i.e. new PIs or a change in analysis. The meetings are a great networking opportunity and a great way to ensure you and your service area get the most out of performance networks.

Advisory group/working group meeting dates

19 September	Building maintenance & management (housing & non housing)
TBA	Highways, winter maintenance & street lighting
24 September	Sports & leisure facility management and culture, leisure & sport
26 September	Security
3 October	Refuse collection and street cleansing
4 October	Civic, cultural & community venues
9 October	Building cleaning
9 October	Parks, open spaces & horticultural services
10 October	Transport operations & vehicle maintenance
11 October	Catering

If you would like to attend, please contact Emma Nolan at the APSE office 0161 7721810 or email enolan@apse.org.uk

CPA update

The first round of surveys looking at leisure centres' representation of target group users have now been completed. Almost 100 leisure centres have now taken part in user profile and user perception surveys. During July and August, we will be reviewing the survey process ready for round 2. This is to enable continuous improvements to the quality of outputs and the usability of the surveys. The new version will be launched in September.

New data validation dates

The data validation meetings are part of the data validation process. They involve data checking over the phone and/or via email prior to the performance reports being finalised.

We are currently organising some data validation dates for September. Further details will be sent to all qualified validators in due course.

Debbie Johns
Principal advisor
0161 772 1810