



network news

Year 9 data collection

Download your service area templates and guidance now!

This year, the data templates and service area guidance manuals are available for members to download on the Performance Networks website. These are available on a rolling basis and Performance Networks will email service contacts when their templates and guidance for each service area are ready to be downloaded. Parks, open spaces & horticultural services and civic, cultural & community venues are already available to download online; along with the static guidance manuals which accompany the service profile tables. We hope that this process will be easier, quicker and more accessible for members. This method also supports APSE's environmental policies under ISO14001.

You will also receive a hard copy data collection pack for information. These will be automatically posted out to members in May. Your data collection pack will comprise of a hard copy generic reference manual with an accompanying service specific CD; containing an electronic copy of the data templates and guidance manuals.

Download your service area templates and guidance now! To access the Performance Networks website please go to the APSE website www.apse.org.uk and click on Performance Networks and then select the members only portal. Please contact Cheryl Walker at the APSE office for further information on data collection, 2007.

New timetable set for 2007

Key dates for 2007 are as follows:

- ◆ Data completion training sessions: 21-24 May 2007
- ◆ New Validator training: 4 June 2007
- ◆ Deadline for the return of data: 29 June 2007 (all service areas)

A full timetable is available in the data collection packs for each service area. For more information, please contact Emma Nolan at the APSE office.

Data completion training sessions, 21-24 May 2007

APSE and IQ Software Systems have introduced a series of facilitated data completion sessions this year. The sessions are aimed at new or inexperienced member authorities and their service area contacts (or persons completing the data). You would particularly benefit from this training if you had never completed a data submission before.

The sessions are scheduled for 21-24 May 2007 and will take place in Manchester, subject to demand. The training will run as half-day morning or afternoon sessions in a specialised computer suite with internet access. You can come to as many service area sessions as you wish, although we have limited places to a maximum of two delegates from the same authority. Please contact Emma Nolan for further information or a booking form.

Data validation training day (new validators)

APSE will be holding a validation training day for new validators on Monday 4 June 2007 at Manchester Town Hall. Please note that Performance Networks is not offering any training this year for experienced validators.

This focus of this training session will be to familiarise new or inexperienced validators with the Performance Networks data collection process. Items in the agenda include:

- ◆ Lessons learned and best practice
- ◆ Validating best and most improved performers
- ◆ Interactive group sessions (by service area)
- ◆ Service specific requirements
- ◆ Mentoring and coaching skills
- ◆ APSE role play demonstration.

For further information, please contact Alex Kent or Cheryl Walker at the APSE office. To reserve your place, please contact Steven Keefe on 0161 772 1810. Please note that if you are a new member/authority who needs help

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completing a data submission, then this course is unsuitable for you although you would find the facilitated data completion sessions (21-24 May 2007) beneficial.

New online data submission pilot for security services

Performance Networks has decided to pilot a new system for online data submission in security services this year. The project is still very much in the early stages, although we envisage a system which is responsive to member's key activity areas (e.g. CCTV, mobile patrolling, alarm monitoring, etc) and tailors the data submission template to the type of service they deliver. Further information on the pilot will be made available to members in due course.

Membership update

Performance Networks membership continues to grow and has reached an all-time high with an additional 2 authorities joining the service. Performance Networks membership now stands at 217 authority members with 144 authorities signed up for the all services option.

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.

Neighbourhood management performance model

APSE has been developing a new neighbourhood management performance model, incorporating street scene services. Discussions have taken place with ENCAMS to develop the principles of a framework model.

The proposal is a response to the government's intention to do away with the existing large, national best value performance indicator (BVPI) set and replace it with a smaller national set, leaving arrangements for local performance monitoring and management largely to local authorities and their partners.

The new neighbourhood management performance model aims to produce a local/national performance framework, based on existing proven methodologies such as Performance Networks and ENCAMS LEQSE data, which both allows local choice of indicators to be made and reports on mandatory national measures. The framework should

also enable comparisons to be made between all the selected indicators, thereby allowing local priorities and standards to be set and performance monitored, including in comparison to other locations.

Please contact Alex Kent or Cheryl Walker at the APSE office for further information, or to register for this pilot. This service area is free to all services members.

CPA update

APSE has been working with the Audit Commission, the DCMS and Sport England over the development of equity and value for money indicators to include in the national performance framework for England. It was originally intended to include these in CPA 2007. However, the Audit Commission took a strategic decision to accept only minimal changes to CPA methodology during the transition to the Comprehensive Area Agreements (CAA), as detailed in the White Paper. On-going discussions are taking place on the potential inclusion of these indicators in the local, voluntary set of indicators under CAA. APSE will continue to update its membership on any developments.

APSE continues to offer all UK-wide authorities the opportunity to benchmark these Performance Indicators for 2006/07 as good practice measures. To join Performance Networks, register additional facilities, or find out information on the CPA process; please contact Cheryl Walker or Alex Kent at the APSE office.

Alex Kent

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