

Devon County Council Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) scorecard 2008

Overall performance for this Council

This is a council that is **improving well** and demonstrating a **4 star** overall performance.



We reached this overall rating by looking at:

- What progress Devon County Council has made in the last year – direction of travel
- How Devon County Council manages its finances and provides value for money – use of resources
- How Devon County Council's main services perform – service performance
- How Devon County Council is run – corporate assessment

Service assessments, use of resources and corporate assessments are scored on the Local Services Inspectorate Forum scale:

- 1 = Inadequate performance – below minimum requirements
- 2 = Adequate performance – only at minimum requirements
- 3 = Performing well – consistently above minimum requirements
- 4 = Performing strongly – well above minimum requirements

Direction of travel

The progress Devon County Council has made in the last year

Direction of travel	2005	2006	2007	2008
This assessment indicates the progress being made, or otherwise, to achieve improvement.	improving well	improving well	improving well	improving well

The following summary has been provided to support the 2008 direction of travel assessment:

Devon County Council is improving well. The Council has made significant progress against its priorities. School results are improving and children's services are now rated as good overall. Older people's services have improved including quicker assessment of the needs of vulnerable people and faster delivery times for equipment. Crime levels are generally low, particularly youth offending, and recycling rates remain excellent. The Council has strengthened its approach to equalities and diversity and has promoted benefits take up but recognises it can improve systems to collect and use citizen feedback. The Council is developing and implementing plans for the future that reflect the needs of local people. It has worked well with partners to develop a sound sustainable community strategy for improving outcomes for citizens although its own corporate objectives have not yet been updated. Performance management has improved generally and the Council is now tackling its weaknesses in target setting. Scrutiny of decision making and member development are now strengths. The risks and uncertainty surrounding local government reorganisation are likely to have a short-term impact on the Council's ability to maintain improvement in all areas.

Use of resources

How Devon County Council manages its finances and provides value for money

Use of resources	2005	2006	2007	2008
We have assessed how well the Council manages its finances and provides value for money.	3	3	3	3

This use of resources judgement is drawn from five individual judgements provided by the Council's appointed auditor:

Auditor judgements	2008
Financial reporting	2
Financial management	3
Financial standing	3
Internal control	3
Value for money	3

Service performance

How Devon County Council's main services perform

Service area	2005	2006	2007	2008
Children and young people - The Council's performance in providing children's services, such as children's education and social care. The joint assessment is made by the Commission for Social Care Inspection and Ofsted following a review of the Council's overall performance and key indicators.	2	2	2	3
Culture - The Council's performance in services, such as libraries and leisure, as assessed by the Audit Commission.	4	4	4	4
Environment - The Council's performance in services, such as transport, planning and waste, as assessed by the Audit Commission.	3	3	3	3
Social care (adults) - The Council's performance in adult social care services. The assessment is made by the Commission for Social Care Inspection following a review of the Council's overall performance and key indicators.	3	3	3	3

Corporate assessment

How Devon County Council is run

Corporate assessment	2005-2008
In assessing how the Council is run, the Commission considers what the Council, together with its partners, is trying to achieve; what the capacity of the Council, including its work with partners, is to deliver what it is trying to achieve; and what has been achieved? Under CPA - The Harder Test, corporate assessments were undertaken once for each single tier and county council between 2005 and 2008.	3

Percentage figures may not total 100 per cent due to rounding.

Please visit the Audit Commission website (www.audit-commission.gov.uk) for the full version of this scorecard.