

BENCHMARKING ANALYSIS 2022/23: METHODOLOGY

Leicestershire County Council carries out an annual benchmarking analysis to inform performance planning and reporting. The latest version covers 2022/23.

Our [Benchmarking Dashboards](#) provide the latest results. Further background and results for Leicestershire are set out in a [Cabinet Report \(26 March 2024\)](#). The methodology used is summarised out below.

Data Sources

The selection of performance indicators aims to provide an overview of performance across broad service themes. The 257 indicators have been selected with reference to the Council's Strategic Plan priorities and metrics of interest to regulators such as Ofsted, CQC and Oflog. The data used is obtained from nationally published sources which include government published data from statutory returns, the Office for National Statistics, Fingertips, revenue expenditure outturn data and Index of Multiple Deprivation. A full list of metrics can be accessed via the 'Indicators' and 'Data' views in the dashboards.

Creation of council ranks and theme ranks

For each indicator, the values were used to rank authorities with the highest performance ranked 1st as shown in the example below. The same approach was taken with the core spending power per head and net revenue expenditure per head data. For expenditure data the lowest authority was ranked 1st.

Area Name	% early years providers rated good or outstanding		
	March 2023		
	Value (..	Rank al..	Quartil..
Northumberland	98.3	1	1
Cambridgeshire	98.1	2	1
Hampshire	97.9	3	1
East Sussex	97.9	4	1
Surrey	97.8	5	1
Cumbria	97.7	6	1
Devon	97.6	7	1
West Sussex	97.5	8	1
Nottinghamshire	97.5	9	2

For each theme, all indicators in that theme were averaged to give a score which was then ranked as shown in the example overleaf.

Area Name	Theme	Average	Rank
Herefordshire	Adult Social Care - Delivery	11.35	1
Leicestershire	Adult Social Care - Delivery	12.00	2
Devon	Adult Social Care - Delivery	12.32	3
Worcestershire	Adult Social Care - Delivery	12.32	3
Essex	Adult Social Care - Delivery	12.79	5
Oxfordshire	Adult Social Care - Delivery	12.79	5
Shropshire	Adult Social Care - Delivery	12.90	7
Dorset	Adult Social Care - Delivery	12.95	8
East Sussex	Adult Social Care - Delivery	14.11	9

The same approach was used with all performance indicators to create an overall performance position. The 'LA Core Performance' position was calculated using all indicators except those relating to housing, economy and police & crime.

Core Spending Power

To allow comparison with single tier authorities, core spending power for two-tier county areas is calculated using a notional allocation for district/borough council core spending power.