

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT BENCHMARKING FRAMEWORK REPORT

The Local Government Benchmarking Framework (LGBF) represents a collaborative endeavor by SOLACE (Scotland) and COSLA aimed at refining measurement methodologies and facilitating the comparison of data to efficiently allocate resources and drive progress. Over the past decade, this initiative has proven successful in promoting cooperation among all 32 Scottish councils, fostering mutual development and knowledge-sharing.

This report delves into the post-COVID landscape, characterized by the persistent efforts of communities and council services to navigate the pandemic's repercussions. Against this backdrop, new challenges have surfaced, notably the escalation of inflationary pressures and the onset of a 'cost of living crisis'.

In this dynamic scenario, the report shines a light on the commendable dedication and achievements of Stirling Council during this extraordinary period. Councils have exhibited remarkable adaptability, swiftly responding to evolving demands, sustaining essential services, and embracing innovative operational approaches. A key factor in this success has been the strengthened partnerships established with communities, alongside collaborations with the third and private sectors. These alliances have played a crucial role in safeguarding vulnerable populations and upholding community well-being amidst the myriad challenges encountered.

While upholding this localized approach, Stirling Council consistently reports its performance within regionally established public reporting frameworks, informed by the comprehensive insights of the LGBF. These insights are accessible to all citizens and users of council services, empowering them to hold local authorities accountable for their achievements and actively engage with local government to drive continuous improvement.

The evidence presented in the LGBF report is poised to play a pivotal role in scrutinizing council services and is expected to foster learning and drive innovation.

