

Network News



Developments

WHAT'S NEW?



Final Deadline – 20 October 2023

A reminder that the final deadline is fast approaching for first batch submissions which will qualify you for the full set of reports and inclusion in the calculations for the best and most improved performer awards 2023. The final deadline is immovable to provide APSE with enough time to validate the data prior to the awards ceremony.

Don't forget that you don't need to complete the entire template. Each template is flagged with priorities – High, medium and low. If you are struggling with workloads, just concentrate on high priority flags and then populate the rest at a more convenient time. If you need any support in getting your data in for the deadline please don't hesitate to speak to a member of the team via

performance.networks@apse.org.uk

Online training – new videos available

We are pleased to announce that we now offer our induction and data completion training online as a pre recorded session. Doing this enables our members to view the training at a time that suits them and at their own pace, without waiting for schedules to coincide. When you login to the portal, from the home page, please click on the 'Training' section and then 'Data completion training'. This will then link to our pre-recorded session. Once you have viewed the session and still have questions, don't hesitate to email me and we will arrange for a support call from a member of the team. We plan to add to this online library with service specific sessions in the coming months.

PN seminar and awards ceremony

Our performance networks seminar will be held on 7-8 December 2023 at the Village Hotel, Blackpool, FY3 8LL. This working seminar is an essential part of the performance networks timetable and is an excellent shared learning opportunity. The seminar will include the 2022/23 data collection results as well as issues affecting service performance. The workshop sessions will feature a range of topics including what the data is telling us about managing budgets, sustainability and climate change indicators, recruitment and retention of staff, how to use performance



data effectively, using technology and digital solutions, best practice case studies and problem solving surgeries. There will be an opportunity in each workshop to discuss issues of local concern and develop solutions with colleagues through problem solving surgeries.

The prestigious performance networks award ceremony is also held at the seminar. This is high-profile occasion is where the best performing authorities and the most improved are awarded for their achievements. There are dedicated awards for most service areas and finalists are selected based on those authorities who have participated in performance networks.

If you haven't yet submitted your data, the final deadline to be included in the reports and to qualify for inclusion in the awards calculations is **20 October 2023.**

For more information, please click on the following link: [Click here to book](#)



Networking Forums

This series of events, held over the past couple of weeks, were developed to increase the opportunities for our members to network with colleagues in their service from across the UK. The performance networks team have updated the groups on findings from the last data set, proposed changes to PI's and awards criteria but, more importantly, these forums gives you a voice to communicate with us and each other. The next round will be held in January/February 2024.

Next steps after submissions...

Award validations

Data validation checks will be taking place during November once the final data has been processed. If you are a finalist for the best performer or most improved performer awards, you will be notified that a validation will need to take place to check your data in advance of the award ceremony. These checks will take place over MS Teams and will take 1-2 hours to complete.

Latest developments...

Climate change benchmarking

A pilot is underway to benchmark Climate Change and a pilot group meeting was held in September 2023 to discuss the draft PI's. APSE met with Patrick Allcorn, Head of Local Net Zero Delivery and Demonstration from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), to discuss this benchmarking pilot and Patrick will be speaking at the forthcoming seminar in Blackpool. This corporate climate change monitoring will complement the existing measures we currently collect within individual service areas, to monitor carbon reduction and other important measures on this vital agenda. Following a successful pilot, it is intended to launch this new model in 2024.



Sport England collaboration

APSE have been working with Sport England to reduce data input times for benchmarking leisure centres and provide a level of synergy between the APSE and the Sport England Moving Communities data systems. New this year, this is an opportunity for APSE performance networks members to opt in to collaborate with Moving Communities to support with the completion of the Performance Networks template.

4GLOBAL can provide a 'help sheet' with details on participation, facility usage, and facility management, providing a shortcut to help members to complete their benchmarking return. This 'help sheet' is an excel spreadsheet where you can use the data from the Moving Communities module to populate sections of the APSE performance networks data template and therefore reducing the amount of data that you need to source from your own systems. This is the first year of this exciting collaboration and the data integration will be developed further in future years including income and expenditure data.

Markets update

APSE are collaborating with NABMA to develop a new approach to benchmarking markets, via an on-line form downloaded from the NABMA website. APSE will have a key role in using our expertise to validate the data and report on the findings from the benchmarking exercise. APSE performance networks members will also still qualify for individual comparator reports from this new approach. This will be launched by NAMBA in the new year.

Environmental health and trading standards - England and Wales launch

Environmental health and trading standards models for England and Wales have been launched this year. Due to the differences in the legislation between England/Wales and Scotland, we have separated the data collection out between the countries. This has been done via a working group of practitioners who have reviewed the old data template and made necessary changes.



Inspection Apps

Performance Networks are now pleased to offer a portfolio of Apps to enable members to use modern and efficient ways to carry out inspections. Compared to paper-based systems, the Apps reduce the duration of inspections, automatically identify the inspection location through GIS, include a photo facility and allow inspections to be submitted by the click of a button. The results from participating authorities can be benchmarked throughout the year, so that you can compare the quality of service, thus becoming an invaluable management tool producing meaningful data. This can be used to prove value for money and to promote how effective your service is. Not only is this data available 'live' via the cloud but also feeds into the performance indicator reports and can contribute to the awards criteria.

Our Apps portfolio is constantly evolving and we now offer 4 solutions for colleagues within parks, cemeteries and crematoria and building cleaning services.

- PIMS - Play Inspection Management System
- MIST - Memorial Inspection Safety Tool
- CLAMS - Cleaning Audit Management System
- LAMS - Land Audit Management System

For more information please visit our website or [click here](#)



Power BI reports

We are currently developing Power BI reports on the web portal to allow members to access interactive reports which allow you to filter your benchmarking results over time and in comparison to others. A pilot is currently underway for reporting on the CLAMS (Cleaning Audit Management System) inspection results through this software and the plan is to roll this out to other service areas following the success of this pilot. Members will be given the opportunity to have their say on the contents of these new reports through the working groups. These reports will complement the current report set available.

The next edition of network news will be published in November, when the performance networks awards finalists are announced!

