

**Report to: Finance and Performance
Management Scrutiny Panel**

Date of Meeting: 16 June 2009



Portfolio: Performance Management (Councillor R. Bassett)

Subject: Council Plan 2006-2010 – Annual Performance Monitoring 2008/09

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Recommendations/Decisions Required:

That the Scrutiny Panel consider performance against the objectives, targets and actions contained in the Council Plan for 2006 to 2010, for the period to 31 March 2009.

Executive Summary:

1. The Council Plan for 2006 to 2010 is the authority's key strategic planning document, setting out service delivery priorities over a four year period, with strategic themes matching those set out in the Community Strategy for the district. Current progress against the Council's key objectives is likely to be an inspection theme in the Managing Performance (formerly Direction of Travel) assessment for 2009, as part of the methodology for Comprehensive Area Assessment.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

2. It is important that relevant performance management processes are in place to review and monitor performance against the Council's key objectives, targets and actions, to ensure the continued achievability and relevance of priorities, and to identify proposals for appropriate corrective action in areas of under performance.

Other Options for Action:

3. No other options are available in this respect. Failure to monitor and review performance against key objectives, targets and actions and to take corrective action where necessary, could have negative implications for judgements made about the authority in the Managing Performance and other corporate assessment processes contributing to Comprehensive Area Assessment, and might mean that opportunities for improvement are lost.

Report:

4. (Deputy Chief Executive) The Council Plan was adopted in 2006 and reflects the Council's medium-term aims and priorities, and it's response to the aspirations of the Epping Forest District Community Strategy, over the period from 2006 to 2010.

5. The Cabinet has previously agreed that performance towards the achievement of the thematic objectives and actions contained in the Council Plan be monitored by the Finance and Performance Management Scrutiny Panel on an annual basis. The Council Plan was therefore due for its third review at the end of March 2009, and a schedule setting out current progress towards the achievement of individual objectives and actions is therefore attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
6. The current Council Plan has now entered its last year, and work will shortly commence on the initial development of a new corporate plan to take the authority forward from 2010, in conjunction with the similar development of a new Community Strategy for the district by the Epping Forest Local Strategic Partnership.
7. The Scrutiny Panel is requested to note current performance towards the achievement of objectives and actions contained in the Council Plan for 2006 to 2010, for the period to 31 March 2009. Relevant Service Directors will be in attendance at the meeting to respond to any issues members may wish to raise in respect of current performance or progress against specific objectives and actions.

Resource Implications:

The respective Service Director will identify the resource requirements for any proposals for corrective action in respect of areas of current under-performance set out in this report.

Legal and Governance Implications:

There are no legal implications or Human Rights Act issues arising from the recommendations in this report, which ensure that the Council monitors progress and reports against the achievement of its corporate priorities.

Safer, Cleaner and Greener Implications:

There are no implications arising from the recommendations in this report for the Council's commitment to the Nottingham Declaration for climate change, the corporate Safer, Cleaner and Greener initiative, or any Crime and Disorder issues within the district.

Consultation Undertaken:

Current performance against the objectives and actions contained in the Council Plan have been reported by each appropriate Service Director.

Background Papers:

None

Impact Assessments:

The respective Service Director will have identified any risk management issues or equality implications arising from any proposals for corrective action in respect of areas of current under-performance set out in this report.