

Report to the Council

Committee: Cabinet

Date: 28 July 2009

Subject: Performance Management Portfolio

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Richard Bassett

Item 6(i)

Recommending:

That the report of the Performance Management Portfolio Holder be noted.

With the tight economic climate one of the important areas this year will be ensuring that the Council is delivering value for money from its services and we should not be afraid to examine if the way the Council currently deliver services are the most cost effective. We have already conducted an external review of the Estates and Valuation service which gave a positive report but it also offered useful recommendations.

We shortly will be examining a review of Reprographics and does it provide value for money. Further reviews will continue throughout the year.

I shall also be looking at Emergency Planning and how we link with the parishes and question if our emergency plans are properly linked. Combined with this will be initial review of the Pitt report on the flooding in the summer of 2007. We have already prepared our initial views to send back on the review but more work will need to be done. This will link with our Land Drainage and Environment departments.

The first meeting of the new Highways Localism Panel is scheduled for the 21st July. This first meeting will be mainly educational where the roles and responsibilities will be explained and we will look at existing budgets and projects. We believe it will take a few meetings to get the Panel properly organized and operational. We have used comments from members to agree projects for this budget year but we can still influence priorities. We do need to start work on identifying new issues and priorities which will be input into the process for consideration.

The Epping Parking review has been published and there have been about 1000 responses received by Highways on the proposals. Many comments have been favourable but I am sure there will also be suggestions for improvements. This item will be monitored by the new Highways Localism Panel. We were asked by the O&S group to change the consultation period for the Debden and Buckhurst Hill reviews because of the summer holiday period. We took this to Highways and we have amended the dates so that everyone will have the opportunity to comment.