

**Report to Finance and Performance
Management Overview and Scrutiny
Panel
Date of meeting: 7 February 2006**



Portfolio: Finance and Performance Management

Subject: Best Value Performance Plan 2006/07 – Summary Version

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Committee Secretary:

Recommendations/Decisions Required:

- (1) That the Scrutiny Panel consider the Council's draft Summary Best Value Performance Plan for 2006/07; and**
- (2) That the draft Summary Best Value Performance Plan be recommended to the Cabinet for adoption.**

Report:

1. (Head of Human Resources and Performance Management) The Local Government Act 1999 and the Best Value regulations require the Council to produce an annual performance plan. The Plan is required to:
 - (a) summarise the Council's successes in meeting its key priorities, objectives and targets;
 - (b) show where these key priorities, objectives and targets were not met;
 - (c) inform customers of the Council's key priorities, objectives and targets for the next year;
 - (d) publish the outcomes of Best Value service reviews undertaken during the last year; and
 - (e) compare the Council's performance for with that for previous years.
2. The Council's Best Value Performance Plan (BVPP) is produced in two versions each year. A detailed version of the Plan is prepared for the Government, the Audit Commission and other bodies involved in the evaluation of the Council's performance, which is also made available to those who desire a comprehensive explanation of its plans and activities. In addition and in accordance with a recommendation of the Audit Commission, a short summary of the BVPP is also distributed to all households in the district within the explanatory leaflet issued with the annual Council Tax demands.
3. The draft BVPP Summary for 2006/07 is attached to this report. In order to minimise costs and contain the summary within the Council Tax leaflet, the detail of the draft summary relates primarily to the Council's main achievements for the current year and its objectives for 2006/07. Fuller detail on specific targets and performance will be set out in the full version of the BVPP to be published in June 2006. The full version of the BVPP will be developed in line with the thematic approach utilised in 2005/06 and for the new Council Plan, and will be reported to the Panel for consideration in May 2006.

4. The Scrutiny Panel is requested to consider the draft summary BVPP and recommend its adoption to the Cabinet. The views of the Panel will be reported at the relevant Cabinet meeting.

Reason for decision:

5. To enable the publication of summary performance information within the Council Tax demands to be issued in March 2006.

Options considered and rejected:

6. No other options are available. In previous years the BVPP Summary has been hand-delivered, but for the last three years production costs have been reduced at the request of members to enable it to be contained within the Council Tax leaflet.

Consultation undertaken:

7. All Heads of Service have contributed to the content of the BVPP Summary.

Resource implications:

Budget provision: From within existing Performance Management Unit budget

Personnel: From within existing Performance Management Unit staff resources

Land: Nil

Council Plan/BVPP reference: Nil

Relevant statutory powers: Local Government Act 1999

Background papers: None

Environmental/Human Rights Act/Crime and Disorder Act Implications: Nil

Key Decision reference (if required): None